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The Numismatist

FOR COLLECTORS OF COINS, MEDALS, TOKENS AND PAPER MONEY



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The Copper Coinage of 1799

by R.W. Julian

THE NUMISMATIST
DECEMBER 1998 • VOLUME 111 • NUMBER 12
Copper Coinage of 1799

Bowers and Merena Invites You to Take Part in

THE RARITIES SALE

January 5-6, 1999 • Orlando, Florida

featuring the *Noblet Collection of Half Dollars*



1794 O-101 MS-63 (PCGS)



1801 MS-62 (NGC)



1809 O-106 MS-65 (NGC)



1839-O MS-63 PCGS

Auctions by Bowers and Merena is pleased to announce that as part of our magnificent Rarities Sale to be held January 5-6 in Orlando, the spectacular half dollar collection of Douglas L. Noblet will cross the block. Douglas L. Noblet, well-known numismatist and collector *par excellence*, formed his cabinet over a period of many years, focusing on acquiring specimens in exceptionally high grades. Most are among the finest known examples of their variety, with an abundance of Condition Census coins. No expense or effort will be spared to create a catalogue that will forever stand as a monument to Mr. Noblet's accomplishment and, at the same time, as a permanent reference work for all numismatists interested in the half dollar series.

Highlights of The Noblet Collection include:

EARLY HALF DOLLARS

Complete by date from 1794 to 1839, the collection lacks just the 1838-O. This amazing collection rivals those of James Bennett Pryor, which we sold in January 1996, and Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., which we sold in April 1997. Many of the coins trace their pedigrees to the Pryor and Eliasberg cabinets.

The first year of the denomination, 1794, is represented by a MS-63 coin, the only Mint State example of the date certified by PCGS (one of only two Mint State coins certified by any third-party grading service). This spectacular coin, an Overton-101, was Lot 2 in the *World's Greatest Collection of U.S. Silver Coins (Part III, Half Dollars)*, sold by Numismatic Gallery (Abe Kosoff and Abner Kreisberg) April 14, 1945. Two nice 1795-dated coins are also included, an O-109 and an O-111. What of the other great rarities, the 1796 and 1797 coins? The 1796 is a 15 Stars type, O-101, in AU-55, while the 1797 is an O-101, in EF-45. The Draped Bust, Large Eagle half dollars are complete by date, several of which are Mint State. The Capped Bust half dollars are likewise complete by date (aside from the 1807 issue), and several varieties can be found among the group. Rarities? How about an 1812/1, Large 8, O-101a, in EF-45! The 1836 Reeded Edge half dollar is MS-63, and two lovely Mint State 1839-O pieces round out the offering.

LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLARS

The Liberty Seated half dollars in the Noblet Collection are as impressive and important as their earlier-dated counterparts. The collection is complete by date and mintmark (save for the rare 1853-O Without Arrows issue), an accomplishment of the first order achieved by only a few numismatists over the years.

Additional rare and popular die varieties are represented as well, adding up to a veritable treasure trove of Liberty Seated delicacies. The seldom-seen 1840 with Medium Letters, Large Eagle reverse is Mint State. Two high-grade specimens of the rare and desirable 1842-O Small Date issue include a remarkable MS-63 coin. There are two nice 1844-O Doubled Date pieces, as well as an exceptional 1846 with 6 over horizontal 6. There are two high-grade 1846-O Tall Date coins, lovely Mint State 1851 and 1852 halves, and more!

The 1855/4 Overdate is represented by an amazing MS-65 example, while the elusive 1857-S is Condition Census. All of the popular Carson City issues are represented in high grades with the 1871-2-3-4 issues all being *Mint State*. Among later Liberty Seated dates the Mint State 1878-S will shine like a beacon, and the low-mintage issues of the 1880s, all in Mint State (rarer than Proof) format, will likewise draw admiration. Perhaps no better statement of quality can be made than to say that of the 138 Liberty Seated half dollars in the Noblet Collection, 124 are Mint State!

LATER ISSUES

The Noblet Collection concludes with a small group of high-grade, better-date Barber half dollars of the 1892-1915 era, followed by a nicely matched complete set of Liberty Walking half dollars in high grade.

TO RESERVE YOUR CATALOGUE

We invite you to reserve your copy of our Rarities Sale catalogue, including the Noblet Collection, at a special price of only \$10 (regularly \$20). To order by credit card, please call Mary Tocci of our Publications Department at 1-800-222-5993 and have your credit card handy. Or, send your check or credit card remittance by letter or fax to the address below.

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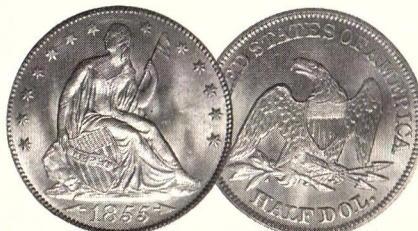
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1840 Reverse of 1838-O. Medium Letters.
MS-61 (PCGS)



1846 Tall Date. AU-58 (PCGS)



1855/4 Arrows WB-102. MS-65 (PCGS)



1873-CC No Arrows MS-63 (PCGS)



1878-S MS-63 (PCGS)

The Numismatist

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U.S. COINAGE

The Copper Coinage of 1799

- 1354 Considering the obstacles facing the United States Mint at the end of the 18th century, it is a miracle any copper coinage was issued in 1799.

R. W. JULIAN

U.S. MEDALS

Pretty Maids All in a Row

- 1358 A century ago, thousands of silver and gold-plated souvenir medals were struck in Omaha with the cooperation of the United States Mint.

LAWRENCE J. LEE

GERMAN-POLISH NUMISMATICS

Tools of Power and Propaganda

- 1366 During the First World War, Germany used coins and paper money to curry favor and secure control of Poland.

PAUL D. VAN WIE

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

- 1443 **Annual Index**

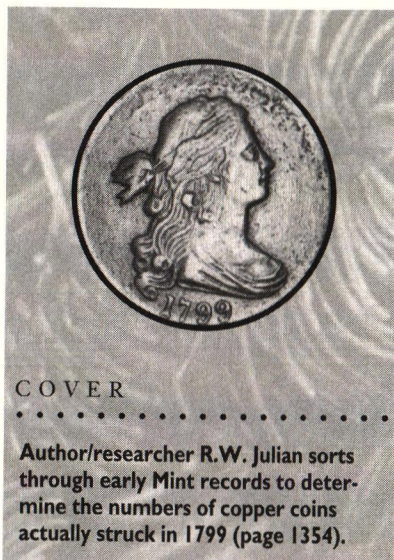
Composite photography was used to create the obverse portrait for the 1898 Trans-Mississippi Exhibition medal, which was struck on the fair's site in Omaha, Nebraska, by the United States Mint (page 1358).

DURHAM WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM





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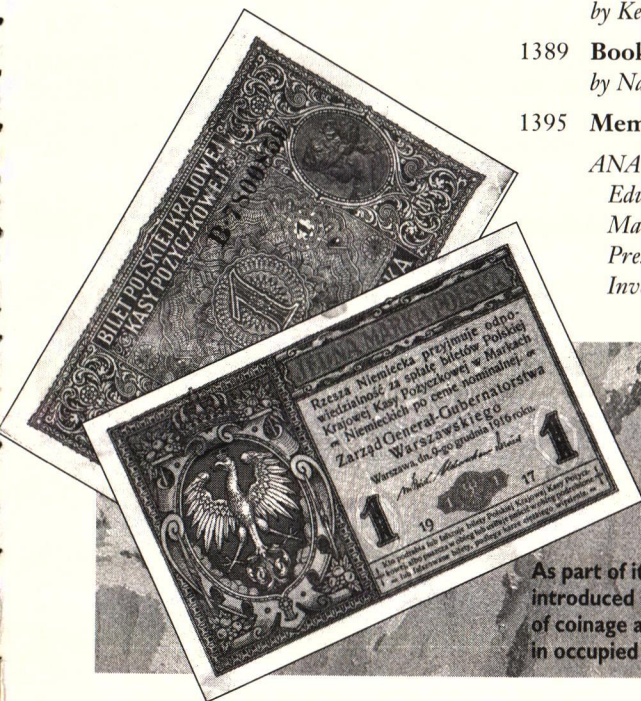
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by Marilyn Reback

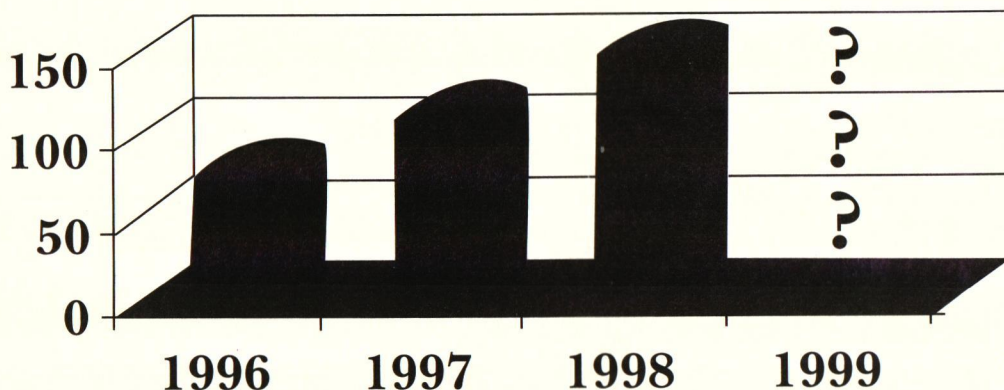


As part of its war plans, Germany introduced a completely new system of coinage and paper money for use in occupied Poland (page 1366).

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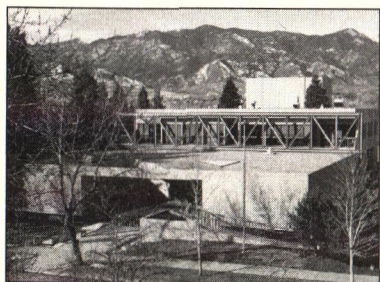
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The American Numismatic Association (ANA), an educational, nonprofit organization, is the largest and most active numismatic body in the world. It invites and welcomes to membership all persons who have a sincere interest in numismatics, whether they collect coins, paper money, tokens or medals, whether advanced collectors or those only generally interested in the subject. The ANA was founded in 1891, and claims more than 28,000 members from every state in the Union and many foreign countries. The Association's official journal, *The Numismatist*, was first published in 1888 by Dr. George F. Heath. Chartered for 50 years by an Act of Congress in 1912 and renewed in perpetuity by an Act of Congress on April 10, 1962, the ANA is a mutual organization for the benefit of its members.

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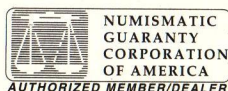
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1954	\$65.00	1963	\$8.00	1975-S	\$9.15	1983-S	\$5.90	1992-S	\$12.75
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Change and Reflection at the ANA

AS THE YEAR comes to a close, I am pleased that a promise I made last September is more than fulfilled. Three months ago, I reported to you about the extraordinary times the ANA was experiencing. I pledged that this Association's future would continue to be bright, and it is.

I felt certain of a positive outcome because I and the other members of the Board of Governors followed the recommendation of the President's Advisory Council and appointed Edward C. Rochette as interim executive director. He brings 20 years' service on the ANA staff as editor of this journal and executive director, as well as six years on the Board (two of them as president). To further strengthen the management of the ANA, the Board and I named a three-member executive committee with 60 years of combined experience.

Following our very successful convention in Portland in August, Ed reviewed the staffing at ANA headquarters in Colorado Springs. He consulted with the executive committee to set about filling vacancies in a couple of key areas.

First Ed promoted Ruthann Brettell to chief financial officer, noting her 32-plus years of service on the staff of the ANA. Next he appointed Brenda Bishop, who had served 18 years in the ANA accounting department, as convention coordinator to replace Ruthann. Then he named Brian Silliman, a numismatist and California coin dealer, to be ANA authenticator for Collector Services. Finally, Ed appointed Gail Baker Kraljevich to head the ANA's Education Department. (You can learn more about

FROM YOUR
PRESIDENT
.....
BY ANTHONY SWIATEK

Gail's background on page 1395.)

The ANA operates in the real world, and some events are outside its control. One of those uncontrollable situations is the stock market, in which the Association has invested some of its endowment. Like many

other organizations and individuals, the decline in the stock market this past year put the ANA behind where we hoped to be. While we budgeted conservatively, our investment earnings still are less than expected. (More information about this matter can be found on page 1398.)

Even though the ANA endowment remains strong, it is the generosity of our members that makes it that way. The ANA is pursuing several fund-raising proposals with the help of a contracted grant writer, who, we hope, will be successful in her efforts to help us spread the word of numismatics to many more people.

I want to thank the many members who donated their time, talent, cash and material to ANA events and projects, and ask all of you to consider donating what you can in the coming year. The ANA is a tax-exempt organization (as defined under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code), so all donations to the Association qualify as tax-deductible contributions. In addition to the many wonderful programs the ANA offers, we also have one of the best numismatic collections in the country, thanks again to our generous members.

As 1998 winds down, I hope you will take a moment to reflect on your Association. As I said earlier, this has been an extraordinary year, and 1999 promises to be exciting for the hobby. Next year, the United States Mint will issue the first five of the 50 States commemorative quarters; the ANA will hold its biennial elections; and collectors can take advantage of ANA's spectacular conventions in Sacramento and Chicago, as well as a wonderful Summer Seminar. So, as you think about numismatics, make plans to celebrate the coming year of collecting with the ANA. •



ANA President Anthony Swiatek (LM 1099) is a Master Numismatist and a Numismatic Mentor. An authority on gold and silver commemorative coins, he has testified before Congress and is the author of a number of books, newsletters and articles. Swiatek has won the ANA's Heath and Wayte and Olga Raymond Literary Awards, and has received the ANA Medal of Merit and Outstanding Adult Advisor awards.

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Pointers from an Older Newcomer

I USUALLY DON'T gripe and groan. I make my choices as carefully as I can, and if they turn out to be wrong, I take my lumps and go on with my life.

Even though I am 74 years old, I am relatively new to coin collecting, being in the game a little less than 10 years. Perhaps what sets me apart from the majority of newcomers is my extensive library of numismatic books. I believe it was Q. David Bowers who impressed upon me to "buy the book before the coin," an axiom I have followed faithfully.

Because of my interest in history, I collect Early American coins and paper money. I attempt to obtain specimens in the highest "circulated" condition possible. To me, mint-state coins do not have the appeal of those that actually circulated in our nation's formative years. (This includes the coins of Great Britain, France, Spain and Mexico that found their way to the New World.) Circulated coins also are much less expensive and more easily found, but may not be worth as much when the time comes to sell them.

Eventually, all collectors confront the question of whether the money tied up in their coins would have been better spent on other investments that might insure a greater return. (I am reminded of British General John Burgoyne, who, after his rousing defeat by the Continental Army and General Horatio Gates at the battles of Bemis Heights and Saratoga in 1777, wrote a long poem decrying the fact that he soon would be called back to England in disgrace: "Good heav'ns! how deep I'm plung'd in woe.")

To help assure collectors of the validity of their numismatic investments, third-party grading services sprang up in the 1980s. In my opinion, such firms do the hobby great injury. There is something wrong when you can get a coin graded by one of these services (for a stiff fee, I might add), break it out of its plastic capsule, resubmit it to another service and get a different grade. Any intelligent, experienced group of collectors can pass a coin around and come up with a reasonable grade. If we come to believe that any coin that is not "slabbed" is graded im-



properly, then we might as well quit collecting coins for fun, education and relaxation.

Like many collectors, I started out buying from as many as 50 coin firms, participating in mail bids, attending small auctions, traveling to coin shows (when I could afford to)

and dealing with private individuals. I made some costly mistakes, but, in long run, I got a great education.

I now do business with a half dozen dealers and one auction house. I attend only those coin shows that strive to educate the public by featuring numismatic exhibits or other programs.

In closing, I'd like to offer my suggestions for enjoying the hobby:

- Keep good records. Know when and from whom you purchased your coins and how much you paid.
- Know the dealers from whom you buy your coins. Establish good business relationships.
- If you think you got "burned" on a purchase, talk it over with the dealer. Stay friends if possible.
- If circumstances force you to sell a coin, offer it to the dealer who originally sold you the piece.
- No matter the value of your collection, your heirs may not be interested in it. Be sure your will includes information about where or to whom your collection (or parts of it) should be sold. Remind your heirs that there is a difference between catalog value and dealer price.
- If you have extremely rare and valuable coins, be sure your records show this.
- Keep having fun and enjoy your finds. Remember, there are no baggage racks on hearses.

Born in 1924, Ben Guild is an Army Air Force veteran of World War II and an ex-prisoner of war. He began collecting coins at the age of 7, when he found some outdated coins in change from his paper route. The Alaska resident enjoys American colonial coins, Hard Times tokens and British "Condor" tokens.

Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the ANA or the editorial staff.

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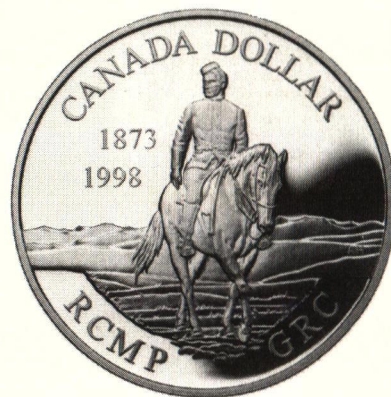
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CH. WINTERSTEIN, LM 1740

LETTERS

Reader Targets Doubled 5 Fen

I wanted to let readers know they can find a number of double dates in the 5-fen series (#Y3 in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*) of coins from the Peoples Republic of China: 1976, 1982, 1984 (doubling on 198 and tripling on 4), 1986 and 1992. I love *The Numismatist* and use it a lot. Keep it up!

Marshall Munn, LM 4540

Numismatics Impacted Lives of 50-Year Members

I want to thank the ANA so much for the 50-year gold membership medal and pin I recently received. Numismatics very much has been a part of my life. As a matter of fact, I met my wife while working at the numismatic counter in Macy's department store in New York City.

It has been a pleasure to know such people as Hans Schulman, Charlie Wormser and J.B. Stack. David Bullowa, in fact, sponsored me for ANA membership more than a half century ago. I wish the ANA great success.

Jay E. Goldman, ANA 16251

I am grateful to have received an engraved, gold medal marking my 50 years of membership in the ANA. Although I have not taken coin collecting as seriously as many members, it has been fun, and I have assembled a collection worthy of passing on to my kids. In time, I hope they will do the same with their children.

I also enjoy *The Numismatist* and find it very informative. I read every

I've just become a member of the ANA and am looking forward to the many benefits offered. I have been collecting for nearly 10 years and plan on visiting the ANA's Web site often.

— David Salinas, ANA 182280

issue, and occasionally save some copies and articles.

B. Troy Ferguson, ANA 15034

Recovered Goods Include Coins

I work for the Indiana State Police. In mid August 1998, a small police department in southwest Indiana arrested a group of burglars. Police recovered about five truckloads of stolen items, among them a group of coins and stamps that might have come from a dealer. Included are a large number of mint and proof sets.

At this time, we are attempting to locate all the victims and return

these items. The burglars may have worked not only in Indiana, but in surrounding states as well. If anyone knows who might have lost such material, please contact me via E-mail.

Ken Miller, E-mail gayle@kiva.net

Editor's Note: Readers are reminded that the ANA offers cash rewards of up to \$5,000 to anyone providing information that leads to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons involved in the theft of numismatic material from an ANA member. For more information, see page 1396 in this issue.

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the ANA or the editorial staff. THE NUMISMATIST reserves the right to edit all material for length and clarity. Direct correspondence to "Letters," THE NUMISMATIST, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279; fax 719/634-4085, E-mail anaedi@money.org.

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ACHIEVEMENT AWARD • OUTSTANDING GOVERNMENT
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REPRESENTATIVE • OUTSTANDING ADULT ADVISOR •
OUTSTANDING YOUNG NUMISMATIST

The ANA is seeking nominations for annual awards to be presented at the 108th Anniversary Convention in Chicago, August 11-15, 1999.

All nominations **must** include date of submission, and name, birth date (if possible) and background of nominee (such as awards, support of the hobby, etc.).

Send nominations to ANA Awards Committee, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279. Deadline is January 15, 1999.

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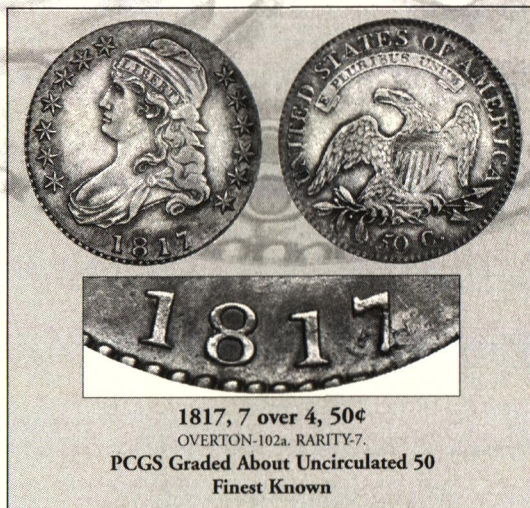
Mark E. Goldberg
LM4844



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SHELDON-188
PCGS graded About Uncirculated 53
Finest Known



1823, 23 over 22, 25¢
BROWNING-1, BREEN-3906.
NGC graded Proof 64
Finest Known



1817, 7 over 4, 50¢
OVERTON-102a. RARITY-7.
PCGS Graded About Uncirculated 50
Finest Known



1825, 5 over 1, \$5 Gold
BREEN-6483.
PCGS graded Mint State 64
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1828, 8 over 7, \$5 Gold
BREEN-6487.
NGC graded Mint State 64
Finest Known

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NEW ISSUES

PORTUGAL: "Year of the Ocean" Coins Stress Ties to the Sea

Underscoring its historical, economic and cultural ties to the sea, Portugal hosted the last world's fair of the century, "The Lisbon World Expo '98: The Oceans, A Heritage for the Future." The fair coincided with the United Nations' "Year of the Ocean," which emphasized the importance of preserving this unparalleled world resource.

To celebrate the world's fair, the Portuguese State Mint struck two commemorative coins: a silver 1,000 escudos and a bimetallic 200 escudos (copper-nickel center with aluminum-bronze outer ring). The proof 1,000 escudos is available for \$47.50. The 200 escudos can be purchased as part of Portugal's eight-



Portugal's relation to the sea is symbolized on a 2,000 escudos (shown) by an astrolabe, seahorse and sail emerging from a stylized Atlantic Ocean.

coin 1998 proof set for \$52.50 or uncirculated mint set for \$32.50. Please add \$4.50 per order for shipping and handling; New Jersey residents should include sales tax. To place an order, contact the Portuguese State Mint's North American agent, P.O. Box 1071, Clifton, NJ 07014; telephone toll free 800/421-1866; fax 973/471-1062; or E-mail coincurin@aol.com.

SOUTH AFRICA: Gold Proof Depicts Veritable Living Fossil

A 1998 2-rand coin from the South African Mint depicts prehistoric and present incarnations of the coelacanth. Although the lobe-finned fish was thought to be extinct for 70 million years, a specimen was netted by a South African fishing trawler in 1938. Today, the last major concentration of the prehistoric fish is in the Mozambique Channel off the



Not Actual Size

A swimming coelacanth is depicted at the top of a South African gold 2-rand coin; below it is shown as a fossil.



PEACE THROUGH COINAGE

*A numismatic initiative
for the Year 2000*

I was delighted to see the latest pieces to carry the message of Peace into the next millennium. The design appears on 1-, 2- and 10-new sheqalim coins of Israel, and it is a beauty!

These coins are the fourth issue in Israel's Biblical Art Series. Each entry renders one of the Bible's great stories in medallion form on one or more denominations. This time the story of Noah is told, depicting a scene after the flood, and foretelling peace and harmony. On the obverse, Noah is shown releasing a dove; a rainbow is in the background. The reverse also displays a dove of peace and a rainbow.

The legal-tender proof and prooflike issues were produced in gold and silver with limited mintages. Issued by the Bank of Israel, they are available in the United States through some dealers and agents.

—Kenneth Bressett



New coins in Israel's Biblical Art Series carry a message of peace.

African coast.

Mintage of the 1/4-ounce, 24kt-gold proof coin is limited to 1,000 pieces. It is available from the South African Mint's representative in North America, The Coin & Currency Institute, P.O. Box 1057, Clifton, NJ 07014, telephone toll free 800/421-1866, fax 973/471-1062; or E-mail coincurin@aol.com. Please add \$4.50 per order for shipping and handling; New Jersey residents should include sales tax.

GIBRALTAR/ISLE OF MAN: 1998 Issues Continue Christmas Series

Gibraltar and the Isle of Man have released the 11th and 19th issues, respectively, in their annual Christmas 50-pence coin series. The 1998



Collectors can send numismatic greeting cards that hold copper-nickel 50-pence Christmas coins from Gibraltar (top) or the Isle of Man (bottom). The coins are struck by the Pobjoy Mint.

Gibraltar issue features Santa Claus lowering himself down a chimney with a sackful of gifts. The Isle of Man piece portrays a Victorian family preparing the traditional Christmas pudding. Ian Rank-Broadley's portrait of Queen Elizabeth II graces the obverse of each coin.

Both Christmas coins are struck by the Pobjoy Mint in copper-nickel (mintage 30,000), proof sterling silver (mintage 5,000) and .916 fine gold (mintage 250). The copper-nickel pieces are available mounted in a holiday card bearing the message "Season's Greetings" in 11 languages. For further information, contact the Pobjoy Mint, Ltd., P.O. Box 109, Rosemount, MN 55068; telephone 612/322-2264; or fax 612/322-5527; or visit the Mint's Web site at www.pobjoy.com.

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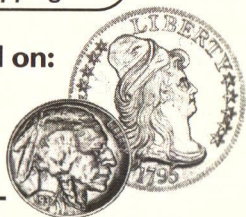
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NUMISMATIC NARRATIVES

New Hoard of Ancient Gold Coins Discovered

Archaeologists in Israel have discovered about 300 ancient Roman gold coins in the northern part of the country, according to the British Broadcasting Company (BBC). The coins were found in a 6th-century ceramic pot buried under the walls of a Roman city.

The BBC reported that the discovery was made at the site of a wealthy city of the Byzantine era (A.D. 300-600). An Israeli authority in antiquities says the size of the find makes it particularly significant.

Coin Sales Help Wolves

Scotsman Coin & Jewelry of St. Louis, Missouri, has pledged to help the Wolf Sanctuary in Eureka, Mis-

souri. For each Canadian 1998 Gray Wolf proof platinum coin set that Scotsman sells, the coin firm will donate \$100 to the Wolf Sanctuary.

Founded in 1971 by famed zoologist Marlin Perkins and his wife, Carol, the sanctuary has saved the gray wolf from near extinction. Jerry Morgan of Scotsman says the company has raised about \$10,000 for the sanctuary. For more information, contact Scotsman Coin & Jewelry at 800/642-4305.

Littleton "Building Gear" Helps Fund Scholarships

The sale of a special T-shirt and cap produced to mark the ground-breaking of Littleton Coin Company's new, 63,000-square-foot facility will help fund a scholarship for a young numismatist (YN) at the ANA's 1999 Summer Seminar. Each year dealers and collectors donate numismatic material for an auction conducted by young Seminar students to raise funds for future YN scholar-

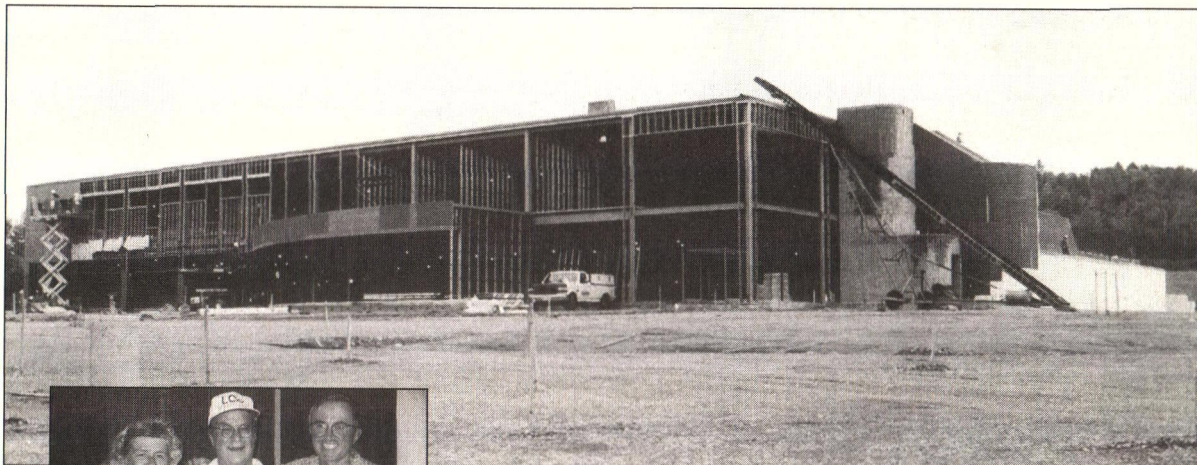
ships to the five-day event in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Littleton Coin Company, named for the small New Hampshire town where it was founded in October 1945, began construction on its state-of-the-art facility in June. Hats and T-shirts were produced for the event, and company president David Sundman, who was a student at the Summer Seminar, donated a set to the ANA's YN auction. Instructor Arthur Fitts and his wife, Prudence, placed the winning bid—\$275.

Krause Launches Auction Web Site

A new Web site on the Internet geared to collectors of all types of antiques and memorabilia was launched in November. Created by Krause Publications of Iola, Wisconsin, the site offers live, interactive, continuous auctions with real-time updates.

Krause's site (www.collectit.net) is unique in that it offers bidders "single sign-on and quick navigation



David Sundman (right) congratulates Arthur and Prudence Fitts on their winning bid for a T-shirt and hat commemorating the ground-breaking of Littleton Coin Company's new facility. Proceeds went to the ANA Young Numismatist Scholarship Fund for the Association's annual Summer Seminar.

through the site, and a feature that allows bids to be placed on multiple items from a single screen." Also available is a classified advertising link to most of Krause's 36 periodicals, which range in subject from antiques, coins and paper money to toys, comics, music, sportscards, stamps, collector cars, firearms and knives. For more information, contact Arlyn Sieber at Krause Publications, telephone 715/445-2214.

Australia Consolidates Gold Production

Gold Corporation and Golden West Refining Corporation Limited are investigating a possible joint-venture agreement to consolidate Australian gold and silver refining and fabrication. According to GoldCorp Aus-

tralia, the agreement would make the Perth-based venture the largest refiner of gold and silver in the nation and strengthen its position in the world market.

Meanwhile, the Gold Institute in Washington, D.C., reports that because of declining prices worldwide, gold production will increase only 1 percent annually over the next four years. Last year, gold miners had estimated a 3.6-percent annual increase, expecting to produce 88.2 million ounces by the year 2000. Now the Gold Institute predicts only 83.5 million ounces of gold will be produced in 2001.

Silver Heals

Silver could be the answer to fighting antibiotic-resistant bacteria. The

Silver Institute, based in Washington, D.C., reports that the precious metal "inactivates virtually all known bacteria and extracellular viruses while at the same time shows no toxicity to humans in low concentrations."

However, as a topical treatment, silver has its problems. It reacts with almost everything near its contact point, thus losing its potency before it reaches the troubled area. With this in mind, Medline Industries of Mundelein, Illinois, has developed a method to control the release of ionic silver. In use for two years in the United Kingdom, it now is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration as an antimicrobial barrier dressing to reduce the incidence of infection. For additional information, telephone the Silver Institute at 202/835-0185.

WORLD COINS

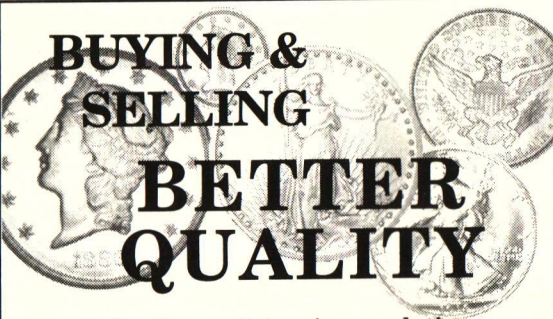
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LM 2406

Rarity Scale Developed for Collectibles Market

A shorthand, comparative method for indicating the number of known specimens of specific collectable items has been developed by 20 experts representing seven major collectible markets. Development of the "Universal Collectibles Rarity Scale" was coordinated by David Hall, owner of Professional Coin Grading Service and Professional Sports Authenticator.

The scale, ranging from 1 to 10, is used to describe rare coins, postage stamps, vintage toys, autographs, musical records, sportscards or other collectibles, with "UR-10" signifying "unique" (one known) and "UR-1" meaning "readily available" (more than 10,000 known). Says Hall,

"People involved in collectibles always look for answers to three basic questions: 'What is it?' 'What is it worth?' and 'How rare is it?'"

Hall turned to a number of numismatic authorities for help in refining the scale, including Q. David Bowers, John Dannreuther, Brad Rodgers, Richard Schwary, Hugh Sconyers and Scott Travers. Use of the scale is unlimited and free. To learn more, call 800/447-8848.

BRM Prepares Launch of Millennium Crown

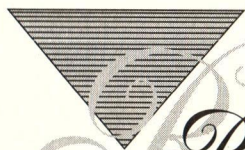
The British Royal Mint (BRM) is set to issue a special crown next year to commemorate the new millennium. The £5 coin will be struck in both gold and silver proof versions, as well as uncirculated copper-nickel.



Not Actual Size

The British Royal Mint will issue a £5 coin to commemorate the new millennium. Featuring a reverse motif by Jeffery Matthews, the piece will be offered in proof gold and silver, and uncirculated copper-nickel.

The reverse design by Jeffery Matthews features a clock face with the dates 1999 and 2000 along the upper rim. An inner circle depicts a map of the British Isles with the



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hands of the clock pivoting on the town of Greenwich, home of Greenwich Mean Time. The coin's obverse bears the 1998 portrait of Queen Elizabeth, sculpted by Ian Rank-Broadley. To obtain more information, contact 800/822-BRIT, or access the British Royal Mint's Web site, www.royalmint.com.

Mint Superintendent Honored with Portrait

The Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists (PAN) has continued the federal government's 200-year-old tradition of commissioning a portrait of the retiring superintendent of the Philadelphia Mint. When David Rittenhouse retired in 1795 as the United States Mint's first director, a portrait was commissioned

and hung in the facility. The tradition continued until 1977, when President Jimmy Carter put a halt to the practice.

PAN raised \$3,600 for a painting of Augustine A. Albino, who retired at the end of November after 37 years on the Mint's staff. The portrait was painted by David Baker of Point Pleasant in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. It is the fourth portrait of a Philadelphia Mint superintendent to be privately financed.

PNG Criticizes Plans for New Commemoratives

The Professional Numismatists Guild (PNG) has criticized Congressional plans to have the United States Mint issue commemorative coins to raise money for a proposed Capitol

Visitor's Center. Richard Schwary, president of the nonprofit coin dealer organization, explains, "Congress is ignoring its own reform rules by not submitting this proposal to the [United States Mint's] Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee, where it would have to stand on its own merits."

However, a 1996 measure might derail Congress' plans. The legislative body approved a measure that year to help stop the United States Mint from losing millions of dollars from its production of commemorative coins that Congress approved, but no one wanted. The bill limits special issues to two a year and stipulates that the Mint recoup its costs before the sponsoring group receives any funds raised from the sale of the coins. •



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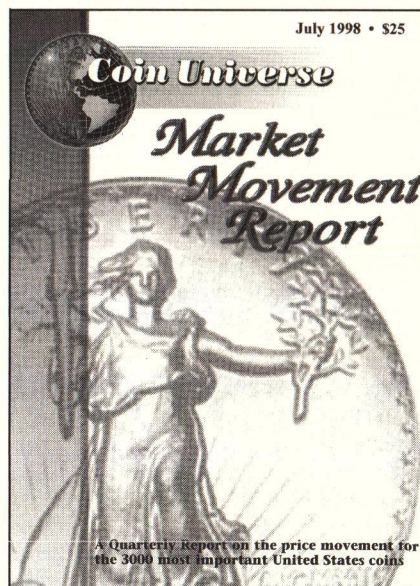
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NUM

The Copper Coinage of 1799

Considering the obstacles facing the United States Mint at the end of the 18th century, it is a miracle any copper coinage was issued in 1799.

by R.W. Julian
ANA 29732

FOR MORE THAN four decades, numismatists have accepted the mintage of the “perfect date” 1799 cent to be 42,542, a figure determined by Walter Breen during his research in the National Archives in the late 1940s and early '50s. Breen repeated the same information, though in slightly garbled form, in his *Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins*, published a decade ago. The only problem with this mintage figure is that it has no documentary basis.

By mistake, Breen attributed to the year 1799 a 1797 delivery of ready-made planchets from England. In actuality, no known archival material helps establish a mintage figure for 1799-dated cents. Most of the mintages for early cents cited in *A Guide Book of United States Coins* (the “Red Book”) are the result of studies made by various researchers over the years. In most cases, these “guesstimates” are reasonably accurate, in others not, although even in some of the latter, the published figure is as good as any considering known rarities. (The 1999 Red Book has dropped the erroneous 1799 cent figure.) Despite acknowledgment that the 42,542 mintage figure is wrong, the story of the 1799 copper cents still is interesting, as it shows the difficulties under which the early United States Mint labored.

The story begins in the mid 1790s. Elias Boudinot had become director of the United States Mint in October 1795 and immediately was faced with a difficult situation. There was a considerable amount of scrap copper in the Mint, but Chief Coiner Henry Voight did not wish to use the fragile rollers for producing the needed strip metal (from which planchets were cut), preferring to reserve them for the all-important gold

Actual Size: 28.50mm

Two obverse dies are known for 1799 cents. The first is the 1799/8 overdate; the second (below) bears a normal date.

ANA ARCHIVES



REALIZING HE WOULD soon be out of copper coins, Boudinot wrote Boulton on January 16 asking the English coiner to send any amount of planchets . . .

.....

and silver coins. However, the demand for lesser coinage was strong in early 1796, forcing Boudinot to melt and roll the copper on hand.

During 1796-97, Boudinot attempted to obtain a ready supply of sheet copper from England, from which planchets could be cut and the remainder sold as scrap to local metal workers. Boudinot tried to persuade famed English private coiner Matthew Boulton to send ready-made planchets in 1796, but failed in his quest because Boulton was tied up on other projects. Ultimately, the Mint director purchased sheet copper and planchets from one of Boulton's competitors, Governor & Company.

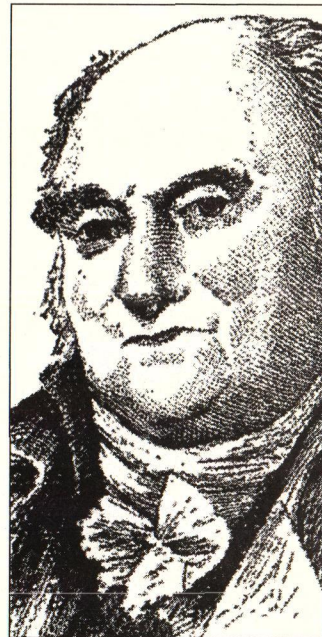
The Governor & Company copper, although tried twice by the Mint, proved of such poor quality that Boudinot was forced to stop dealing with the British firm. As the last of the Governor & Company shipments arrived in late 1797, ready-made planchets were obtained from Matthew Boulton. Not only were the latter cheaper, but they also were far better than those sent by his rival. Thus began a business arrangement that lasted until 1838.

In July 1798, the Mint received another shipment of cent planchets from Boulton, amounting to more than 900,000 pieces. Demand for cents was not particularly heavy in the latter part of 1798, and at year's end some 235,000 struck pieces were on hand, along with about 275,000 planchets waiting to be sent to the coining rooms.

Apparently 1798 was the proverbial lull before the storm, because demand for cents picked up in 1799, and Boudinot was forced to send the reserve planchets to the coining presses. By the end of January, the Mint was shipping out cents in large quantities, and only about 90,000 blanks remained. Realizing he would soon be out of copper coins, Boudinot wrote Boulton on January 16 asking the English coiner to send any amount of planchets that could be prepared, even if the quantity was as small as five tons (about 467,000 pieces).

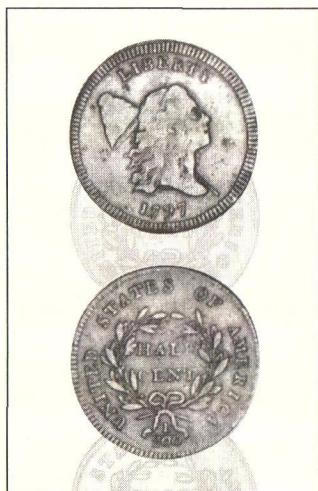
Demand for cents subsided the following month, and the last of the leftover planchets was not struck until early March 1799. With that mintage, however, the Mint was out of blanks, with no clear idea when the next shipment from Boulton would arrive.

At this point, an unusual event occurred that would confuse modern-day researchers. Boudinot, realizing it might be some time before planchets were delivered from England, ordered sheet copper (585 pounds of which had been purchased by the Mint from Arthur Blayney in June 1798) to be used for coinage. The copper was brought to the coining rooms, where Assistant Coiner Adam Eckfeldt—in charge of copper



United States Mint Director Elias Boudinot worked diligently to acquire quality copper for the manufacture of cents and half cents—sometimes with less than satisfactory results.

ANA ARCHIVES



Actual Size: 23.50mm

No half cents bear the date 1799, although Mint records indicate that 12,167 were delivered that year. Some numismatists believe the coins actually were struck in 1797 and distributed two years later. ANA ARCHIVES



coinage since January 1796—ordered that both cent and half-cent blanks be punched from it. About 8,300 cent and 12,500 half-cent planchets were produced, with leftover clippings sold to local metal workers.

The Blayney planchets were prepared by the end of March 1799, but coinage was delayed, perhaps because of the production of gold or silver coins. On April 7, the assistant coiner delivered 8,235 cents and 12,167 half cents. The mintage of half cents was duly recorded by the director in the 1799 annual report (which was completed in January 1800), though numismatists later believed these actually were coined in 1797 and simply not delivered until 1799. The Blayney copper records clearly show that the half cents were coined in 1799; however, no half cents bear this date. Thus, it is inescapable that dies of 1797 were used for this coinage. Because the mintage was so small, it is unlikely we will ever know for certain precisely which 1797 half cents were struck from Blayney copper.

(Half-cent coinage was not struck again until early in 1800. Oddly enough, one of the main source of planchets for this production was misstruck large cents. These were rolled down to half-cent thickness, then planchets were punched out. Considering this method was practiced in 1797, it is curious the Mint did not pursue this course of action in the final months of 1799, when the Mint was out of half cents.)

Although coins struck from the Blayney copper soon were distributed to the public, Mint Director Boudinot did not buy any more copper on the open market. He was determined to reserve valuable rollers for silver and gold coins; thus no copper coinage was struck for the time being. Early Mint records do not indicate the date that appeared on cents released in 1799. For this reason, we can only assume that the majority of cents struck in 1799 were dated 1798. It is not at all clear when the 1799-dated pieces were coined and, in fact, this could have come in early 1800 just as easily as 1799.

Two obverse dies are known for 1799 cents. The first and perhaps most familiar is the 1799/8 overdate; the other bears a normal date. Both varieties are rare, though not as rare as collectors are led to believe when such coins are offered for sale.

One clue that may help explain the use of 1798-dated dies is found in correspondence between Elias Boudinot and Matthew Boulton in April 1799. In those days, mail moved across the ocean at a snail's pace, and letters often required several weeks to reach their destination. Boulton wrote on April 2 that he had been unable to ship any planchets because all the canals leading from the Welsh copper-smelting plants were frozen during the harsh winter. Without the necessary cake copper, there was little Boulton could do about cent planchets for the Philadelphia Mint. He also noted that the price of copper had risen considerably. (The subsequent invoice showed a 20-percent increase over the last billing. The price increase resulted from European political and military

continued on page 1387

Pretty Maids All in a Row

A century ago, thousands of silver and gold-plated souvenir medals were struck in Omaha with the cooperation of the United States Mint.

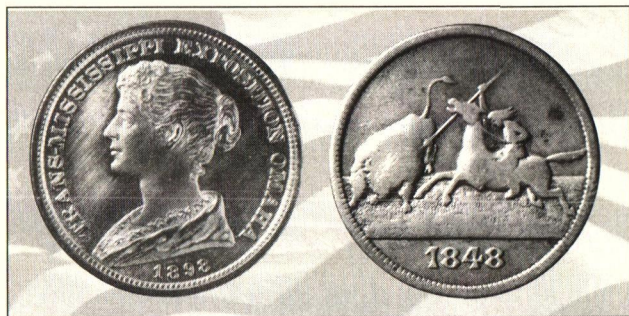
by Lawrence J. Lee
ANA 153369

FOR FIVE MONTHS in 1898, the United States Treasury Department operated what was, in essence, an unofficial branch mint in Omaha, Nebraska. From June 1 until October 31 of that year, Mint employees, operating government-owned minting equipment and using government-made dies, struck souvenir medals for direct sale to the American public.

The occasion, named with typical 19th-century verbosity, was the Trans-Mississippi International Exposition and Indian Congress. The "Trans-Miss," as it came to be called, was patterned after the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Using the same neoclassical motif, event organizers sought to showcase the mineral wealth, and agricultural and manufacturing accomplishments, of the 19 states and three territories west of the Mississippi River. Five hundred Native

Americans from 32 different tribes gave the event a Western flavor, complete with mock Wild West battles between "cowboys and Indians" (the Indians always won). International seasoning was added by representatives of nine foreign countries.

Omaha was chosen to showcase the nation's technological accomplishments by virtue of the hard work and boosterism of civic groups like the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben ("Nebraska" spelled backward). The city and the nation still were recovering from the "Panic of '93," and many naysayers continued to predict only gloom and doom for the city. However, the Trans-Miss came to be hailed as, and remains to this day,



Actual Size: 32mm

The female image depicted on the obverse of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition medal was a composite of 44 different women. The reverse shows a Native American spearing a bison.

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF DURHAM WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM

TOWNSFOLK WOULD SIT on their front porches until closing every night just to watch the strange glow emanating from the northern part of the city.

.....



Not Actual Size

The Philadelphia Mint prepared the dies used to strike the official Trans-Mississippi Exposition medal.

the biggest single event ever to occur in Omaha. Before the Exposition grounds closed on October 31, more than 2.6 million people passed through its portals. Equally as important, investors who purchased stock in the Trans-Mississippi Exposition Corporation were paid back at 92.5 cents on the dollar; the highest return for any stock-funded world's fair or exposition before or since.

Despite their apparent durability, Exposition buildings were temporary structures designed to last only a season or two. Built of lumber and plaster of Paris, seven major structures were situated around a 2,000-foot-long lagoon. Another 100 minor buildings housed midway rides and concession stands, and various state buildings were scattered around the 184-acre site. Everything was outlined with newfangled electric lights, which at night reflected off the brilliant plaster, turning the fairgrounds into a magical place the local residents dubbed the "White City." Townsfolk would sit on their front porches until closing every night just to watch the strange glow emanating from the northern part of the city.

Besides the light show, the Trans-Mississippi Exposition provided the citizens of Omaha with their first view of many other new inventions, including infant incubators, electric fans and typewriters. A "horseless carriage" was driven around the grounds, marketed by one of the first companies to sell cars in the United States—Montgomery Ward.

Medal Planning and Design

EARLY ON, THE directors of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition decided that an official medal would be produced. It was hoped the sale of this

THE JUDGE'S PLAN evidently was thought to be too sexist, even by the politically incorrect standards of the day. . . . Nothing more was heard of Neville's idea.

.....



This photograph, never before published, shows Thomas Kimball and his wife at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition. Kimball was the primary architect for the event and designer of the medal's reverse.

souvenir, variously referred to as a coin, medal or medalet, would help defray Exposition expenses.

Overseeing the project was the Bureau of Souvenir Coins, which was placed under the direction of Z.T. Lindsey as part of the Ways and Means Department. It was suggested that the most beautiful woman in the world be portrayed on the medal's obverse; eventually it was decided to show a composite of ladies typical of the region.

Judges were appointed in each of the states and territories comprising the Trans-Mississippi area. Their objective was to select from among thousands of photographs the two most beautiful women in their respective areas. The "pageant" began in late 1897 and was scheduled to close on February 1, 1898.

There is some confusion over which state first submitted pictures of contestants. The January 11, 1898, *Omaha Bee* reported that "Missouri has submitted pictures of its two ladies, but no names given." Almost two weeks later, the same newspaper said that "Montana is the first state to have picked its maidens for the composite picture. They are Miss Harriet Elenear of Dillion and Miss Leonora Robinson of Bozeman." Whatever the case, photographs of all 44 entrants arrived in Omaha before the deadline.

Omaha's group of judges reviewed several hundred photographs of the prettiest girls in Nebraska. Among the all-male panel was William Neville of North Platte, who wanted to display the applicants' photographs in the Nebraska Building for the duration of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition. According to the January 10 issue of the *Omaha Bee*, he thought the sight of the pretty maids all in a row would "have a strong effect on immigration to Nebraska, especially among the men of the East, and as a result the matrimonial market will experience a wave of prosperity." He also thought the pictures would "arouse the patriotism of Nebraska women, especially those living in a state of single blessedness."

The judge's plan evidently was thought to be too sexist, even by the politically incorrect standards of the day. On February 2, the *Omaha Bee*

reported that "the Women's Bureau has rejected the idea of exhibiting the pictures of Nebraska women (from) the composite picture contest." Nothing more was heard of Neville's idea.

The photographs of some of the Nebraska finalists were published in the July 25, 1898, edition of a weekly society paper, the *Omaha Excelsior*. The eventual winners were Netta Harmer of Syracuse and Mary O'Shea of Lincoln.

Rockwood's Obverse

ONCE THE 44 photographs (some accounts say 48) were collected, they were forwarded to New York City. There they were to be combined into a single image by George Gardner Rockwood, an "eminent artist" and the proclaimed inventor of "the intricate art of composite photography."

Rockwood indeed was every bit the big-city photographer the Omaha people hoped to find. Dr. Rockwood (he had a Ph.D. from Columbia University) had been in business for more than 40 years (and would work another 13 years before retiring) when he was approached about composing the medal's obverse. Many famous and not-so-famous New Yorkers had posed for portraits in Rockwood's walk-in studio at Union Square and 15th Street.

Well before Rockwood began experimenting with composite photography, he captured Baron de Rothschild on America's first *carte de visite* (a small calling card bearing a photograph.) He published several technical articles about such subjects as how to use a camera at night, artificial light sources and microphotography. In 1874 he was the first to advertise his use of the new "photozincography," "photogalvanography" and "photolithography" techniques. Combining the pictures of 44 women into a single image thus was not that big a challenge for Rockwood. Unfortu-

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Service Building, Exposition Grounds.

Advertisements for silver and gold-plated medals appeared in the *Omaha World Herald* (left) and the *Omaha Bee*.

[ROCKWOOD'S] FINAL COMPOSITE profile was said to "aptly illustrate the best and strongest type of Western womanhood."

.....

nately, no negatives or prints from this project are known. His final composite profile was said to "aptly illustrate the best and strongest type of Western womanhood." (The Trans-Mississippi Exposition, however, did not represent the first use of composite photography. A medal struck in 1880 to commemorate Cleopatra's Needle, a stone obelisk moved from Egypt to New York's Central Park, featured a portrait of Cleopatra on the obverse, created from composite photographs of Egyptian coins.)

Kimball's Reverse

THE REVERSE OF the official medal featured a dynamic scene of an "Indian" on horseback spearing a "buffalo" (American bison). Below, in the exergue, is the date 1848, symbolizing the opening of the American frontier. The design was modeled after a sketch submitted by Thomas R. Kimball, a well-known Omaha architect in charge of the Trans-Mississippi building plans. (Today, the Omaha Coin Club uses virtually the same image for its logo.)

The two images—the "savage" buffalo hunter and the "beautiful image of Western womanhood"—were said to be "indicative of the strides

The United States Treasury's display at the 1898 Trans-Mississippi Exposition encompassed 4,200 square feet.



civilization and culture made in the West in fifty years." (It is safe to say that in today's milieu of heightened awareness, no design of similar insensitivity to minority groups would be approved.)

Minting the Medals

FOLLOWING THE EXAMPLE set by the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, the official Trans-Mississippi Exposition medal was struck on-site at the 4,200-square-foot Treasury Exhibit within the Government Building. An electric (not steam-powered) coining press was brought from the San Francisco Mint especially for the event.

The 32mm medals were minted during exhibit hours and, according to author James Haynes, a "constant source of intense interest to visitors who crowded about the guard railings. This was a novel, live exhibit, which contributed much to the success of the efforts of the Government's agents to attract and instruct the people."

Original plans also called for the Treasury Department to strike the gold, silver and bronze award medals presented to winning exhibitors. But the coining press brought from San Francisco was too small to strike the 63.4mm medals, and the job was commissioned to S.D. Childs & Company of Chicago. (Though the company's name appears in small letters on the reverse of the award medal, many reports, including the official history of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition, erroneously state the medals were produced by the United States Mint.)

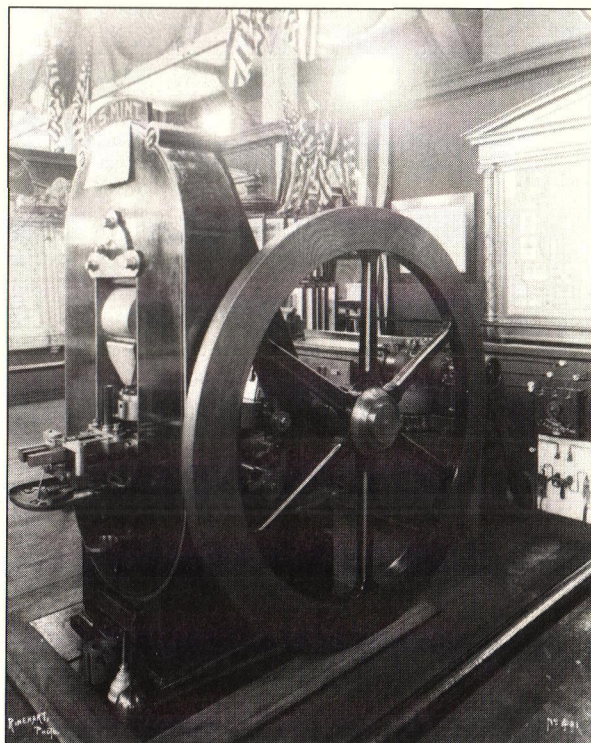
Die Production

ON THE OTHER hand, the dies for the souvenir medal indeed were made at the Mint facilities in Philadelphia. For many years, the Mint engraved dies for outside agencies, a practice continued under the term of Robert Preston, who was acting director of the Mint in the late 1800s.

In a letter to Trans-Mississippi officials, Preston urged them to submit obverse and reverse designs in an "expeditious manner." He complained that the designs for the World's Columbian Exposition were not submitted until the fair was almost over. Not wishing to have their exposition compared in a negative way to the Chicago event, Trans-Mississippi organizers made sure designs reached Mint officials weeks in advance of the deadline.

At least three different sets of obverse and reverse dies were made

continued on page 1391



Medals were struck in full view of the public on an electric coining press brought from the San Francisco Mint.



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Tools of Power and Propaganda

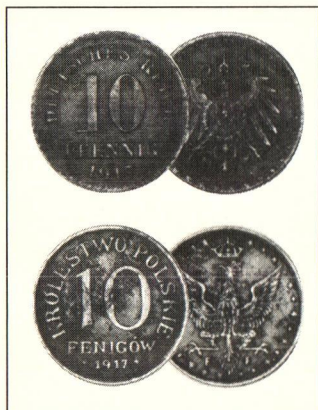
During the First World War, Germany used coins and paper money to curry favor and secure control of Poland.

by Paul D. van Wie
ANA 159347

POLAND EXPERIENCED TREMENDOUS economic and political change during the World War I era. Strategically situated between Germany and Russia, it was occupied for much of the war by German and Austro-Hungarian forces. Because of Poland's key location and resources, German civil and military authorities evidenced a profound interest in the country's political and economic future. In 1917, in fact, the Germans introduced a completely new system of coinage and currency for use in occupied Poland. These monetary issues provide fresh insight into both German aspirations during World War I and the complexity of the German-Polish relationship.

For more than a century prior to World War I, there was no independent Polish state. The nation was divided between the German, Austrian and Russian Empires, with Russian Poland constituting by far the largest portion. In terms of coinage, Poland did not exist as a distinct entity. In the decades before World War I, Russian rubles, Austrian krownen and German marks circulated within their respective zones. When World War I began in 1914, Poland became a battleground between the Central Powers (chiefly Germany and Austria-Hungary) and Russia. By 1915 the Central Powers had occupied most of Russian Poland. As the dominant member of the Central Powers, Germany seemingly was in a position to decide the future of the area.

During World War I, German leaders formulated war aims designed to secure their country's dominance in Europe. Most envisioned a *Mitteleuropa* (Central Europe) controlled by Germany both militarily and economically. Countries such as Poland and Belgium, because of their proximity to Germany, figured prominently in these plans. While control of the former Russian Poland became a primary German goal in



A comparison of 1917 German 10-pfennig (top) and Polish 10-fenigow pieces reveals striking similarities in design.



Actual Size: 70 x 109mm

Currency can be a powerful tool of propaganda. Note the crowned Polish eagle as well as the absence of any German inscriptions on this Polish mark bank note authorized in 1916 and circulated in 1917. The obvious intent was to harness Polish nationalism for Germany's benefit.

World War I, the status of this territory was a delicate one. Because of the vigorous nationalism of the Polish people, it would have been extremely problematic for Germany to simply annex all of Poland outright.

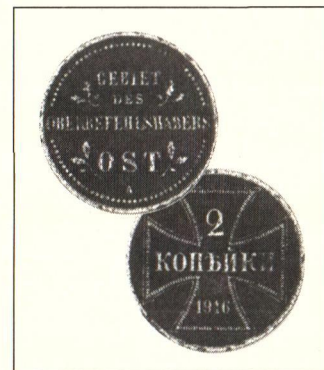
The German government, therefore, decided to resurrect an "independent" Polish state, while in actuality retaining control of the country. Not coincidentally, Germany hoped the grateful Poles would assist the German cause with men and resources in the increasingly desperate world war. As a result, in November 1916 the German and Austrian emperors proclaimed the establishment of a Polish kingdom.

In December 1916, German authorities chartered the Polish State Loan Bank. Headquartered in Warsaw, the bank was authorized to issue currency within the territory of former Russian Poland. In 1917 the Germans decided to retire the Russian ruble that previously circulated in the territory and replace it with a Polish mark (*marka polska*) of 100 fenigow, exactly equal in value to the German mark. The new currency made its debut in April 1917. With its proclamation of a Polish kingdom and use of only Polish legends, it obviously was an attempt to win the goodwill of Polish nationalists.

In February 1917, German authorities in Poland were empowered to issue coins to complement the forthcoming Polish Loan Bank currency. Twenty-million marks' worth of small change was authorized to be minted in the prevailing, wartime iron compositions. Struck at the Royal Württemberg Mint in Stuttgart, Germany, the pieces closely mirrored the German wartime coinage. For example, the iron Polish 5-fenigow piece of 1917 had a weight of 25 grams and a diameter of 18 millimeters, exactly that of the German 5-pfennig coin of the same year.

A side-by-side comparison of the German and Polish coinage reveals further similarities. From 1873 to 1918, German minor coinage usually

continued on page 1423



The Oberost coinage of 1916 used traditional Russian denominations. This 2-kopeck piece featured the value in Russian superimposed on an iron-cross design. Such pieces clearly were provisional, as opposed to the more permanent Polish mark system introduced in 1917.

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A Century of Numismatics—1901-2000

THE 1930S HAD been years of growth for numismatics. No one, however, could have predicted the hobby's extensive leap forward in the '40s.

The Dealer Scene: 1941-50

Numismatics comes of age in this decade. Dealers always have been the focal point of commercial activity in the hobby, whether through coin store operation, auction sales, price lists, or simply "vest pocket" trading. Rising to prominence during this time was the Numismatic Gallery founded in 1939 by Abe Kosoff, who also entered the auction arena a few years later.

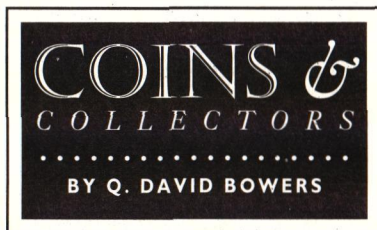
In 1943 Kosoff's activities centered on the sale of the Michael Higgy Collection. The market was fairly active, but World War II was taking its toll on the availability of consumer goods. In the absence of purchasing opportunities, many consumers were piling up cash. At the same time, inflation was rampant, and many investors' thoughts turned to hard assets, such as coins. The Higgy sale—where Buffalo nickels, proof silver coins, pattern and other pieces brought 2 to 10 times the estimated values—became the catalyst. The market went wild. This spectacular event launched the Numismatic Gallery into the spotlight.

The following year, Abe Kosoff signed Abner Kreisberg as a partner. The duo certainly was dynamic, and in 1945 they proclaimed the offering in multiple sections of the "World's Greatest Collection." The anonymous consignor was business executive Frederick C.C. Boyd. Sales soared with ever-escalating prices.

Meanwhile, Stack's held a series of illustrious events, including the 1944 Colonel J.W. Flanagan and

ingly monthly basis. Brothers Ted and Carl Brandts appeared suddenly in Ohio with major rarities and "dream coins" for sale before dropping out of sight.

In Texas the indefatigable showman B. Max Mehl published his magnum opus, the William Forester Dunham sale catalog, in 1941. Publicity from this and later sales, such as the William C. Atwater (1946), Will W. Neil (1947) and Frederick W. Geiss (1947) collections—and even duplicates from the cabinet of Egypt's King Farouk, brought Mehl much attention. When the *Saturday Evening Post* ran a big spread on Mehl's endeavors, the story generated correspondence from all corners of the country. As far as John Q. Public was concerned, coin deal-



Jake Bell sales, and initiated a house organ, *Numismatic Review*. M.H. Bolender continued to publish his popular mail-bid sales. Barney Blue-stone turned out his share of auction offerings, and the Hollinbeck Coin Company (Art and Paul Kagin) organized mail-bid sales on a seem-



Dealer extraordinaire Abe Kosoff (right) is seen here with Sol Kaplan (second from right) and other numismatic colleagues at the ANA convention auction in Miami in 1967. In 1939 Kosoff founded the Numismatic Gallery and in 1940 conducted his first sale with the help of a consignment from a friend—established dealer and stockbroker Julius Guttag.

ers no doubt were separated into two categories—with Mehl in one and everyone else in the other. His undeniable talent for self-promotion seemed unmatched.

Collectors and Collecting

During this decade, collections continued to be built in many specialties. F.C.C. Boyd, for example, sold what was termed the “World’s Greatest Collection” in 1945-46 and then went on to vigorously pursue colonials, tokens, paper money and Continental currency. Other active collectors at this time included T. James Clark, a connoisseur *par excellence*, especially of Massachusetts silver coins and United States large cents; Melvin Fuld, who launched his son on a career in the hobby that resulted in George Fuld becoming one of America’s most respected and accomplished numismatic researchers; Albert Grinnell, who compiled remarkable currency holdings; Eric Newman, accomplishing the seemingly impossible (adding the *one coin* he needed, the unique 1873-CC “without arrows” dime, to complete his collection of all federal coins from the 1793 half cent to the 1933 \$20 gold); and O.K. Rumbel, who had so many coins, he paid Stuart Mosher (future Smithsonian numismatic curator) to reside in Texas to help catalog the collection.

Publications

Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine maintained its popularity through the end of the decade and, together with *The Numismatist*, stands today as a historical record of the hobby during the '40s.

Publishing activities diminished during World War II, but in 1944 Howard R. Newcomb published the definitive text on large, copper cents

of the later series, 1816-57, under the Stack’s imprint. Harper published a companion volume, *Early American Cents*, by Dr. William H. Sheldon. Both books spoke to a wide audience, and within the decade a strong contingent of the numismatic fraternity was devoted to the preservation, study and care of early, copper cents. In 1950 M.H. Bolender published the first comprehensive study of early silver dollars since J.W. Haseltine’s *Type Table* in 1881.

As important as the aforementioned publications were, *A Guide Book of United States Coins* captured the spotlight. Whitman Publishing Company’s Richard S. Yeoman launched this compact, annual digest in 1946, with a 1947 cover date to maximize timeliness. Distributed through bookstores and hobby shops, the *Guide Book* played a major role in popularizing numismatics and, taken in aggregate, became a major non-fiction bestseller.

From New York City, Wayte Raymond continued his *Standard Catalogue of U.S. Coins*, supplemented by other reference works as well as issues of *The Coin Collector’s Journal*. Meanwhile, Raymond’s friend John Jay Ford Jr. joined Charles Wormser as a partner in the New Netherlands Coin Company in 1950. This rather quiet but well-respected firm, founded in 1936, turned out a few innocuous auction catalogs. This would soon change.

Commemoratives

While the commemorative market was as hot a pistol in 1935-36, it went into hibernation in the '40s. Rocked by dissension and scandal, commemoratives hit a dead end after the 1939 Arkansas and Oregon Trail issues. Finally, in 1946 the Iowa Centennial provided a legitimate

reason to issue a commemorative half dollar. Sales were strong from the outset for the 100,057 pieces minted. However, just one variety of this commemorative was made, without subsequent issues capitalizing on variations, mintmarks or added features.

However, the concept of serial issues had not disappeared. In the same year, Booker T. Washington half dollars were minted at Philadelphia, Denver and San Francisco. Sets of these three pieces were marketed with rather indifferent success through 1951, when most collectors agreed the series should terminate. However, the coin’s proponents felt otherwise and launched a new series, the Washington-Carver pieces, which continued through 1954.

Meanwhile, the regular-issue coin arena was a bit more exciting. Lincoln cents changed in 1943 when zinc-coated steel replaced the bronze needed for strategic war efforts. Similarly, the nickel 5-cent piece—made of 75-percent copper and 25-percent nickel—was modified in 1941 for the same reason. The mintmark on the Jefferson nickel, previously limited to “D” and “S,” and placed inconspicuously to the right of Monticello on the reverse, was enlarged dramatically and placed prominently above the dome. Coins of the new alloy—56-percent copper, 25-percent silver and 9-percent manganese—sport the “P” mintmark (for Philadelphia) for the first time. The large, new mintmarks were intended to make it easier to spot wartime, nickel-alloy coins later when such pieces were to be withdrawn from circulation.

Ten-cent pieces also underwent change. The “Mercury” style, in nearly continuous production since 1916 (except for the years 1922 and



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1932), faded from the scene in 1945. It was replaced in 1946 by the Roosevelt motif, honoring the nation's only four-term president—the chief executive who had helped guide America through one of the most demanding and dynamic eras in history, ranging from the Depression through World War II. President Roosevelt's own battle with polio as well as his advocacy of the March of Dimes fund-raising campaign made it fitting that he be honored on this denomination. Quarter dollars remained unchanged. Walking Liberty half dollars, however, were discontinued in 1947 and replaced with a new Franklin motif in 1948.

Among currency issues, special \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$20 notes were overprinted with the word HAWAII for use in the islands. The rationale was

that if the money fell into Japanese hands, the legal-tender status of such currency could be repudiated. Similarly, currency with orange seals was distributed to troops in the North African campaign.

At war's end, a popular way to "collect" dollar bills was to paste or glue them together end-to-end and obtain the signatures of one's war buddies, such long strips being called "short snorters." Many other numismatic items were created during this period, including ration tokens, private scrip and military payment certificates.

World War II and the postwar boom were heady times for numismatics. Then came the fall. The rare coin market collapsed in the late 1940s. Bargains were abundant—but not for long.

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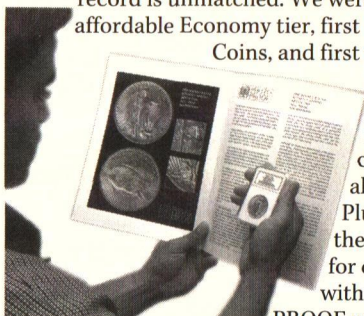
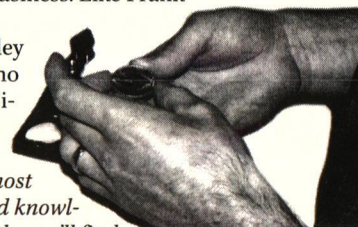
Greenberg of Delaware Valley Rare Coins who said of NGC Finalizer John Maben, *"John is one of the most dedicated, and knowledgeable people you'll find in the business. I have tremendous respect for his eye, his knowledge, and his work ethic."*

Or, consider Warren Tucker's comments on NGC grader Ken Krah, *"Ken is one of only a few experts I can think of eminently qualified to be grading world coins. I deal exclusively in world coins and send all of my coins to NGC because of Ken Krah's expertise."*

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Feldman Promoted Numismatic Literature

THE HEADING FOR an ad in the March 1966 issue of *The Numismatist* read, "BUY THE BOOK BEFORE THE COIN." The dealer who placed the ad, Aaron R. Feldman, is so strongly identified with this quote, that to many collectors he is known for little else. Dealers use his quote to promote their business, while numismatic scholars are inspired by his love of literature.

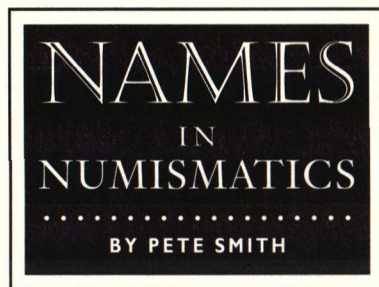
Feldman loved the hobby before he became a dealer. He bought his first coin book from B. Max Mehl around 1936. Thousands of Americans had only Mehl's book for reference, but Feldman wanted more. His enjoyment of coins was heightened when he knew more about them. As he said in a 1973 interview, "I've always thought that if a man doesn't own one coin, but has the knowledge that is in the books, then he's a real numismatist."

Feldman was born in Newark, New Jersey, on July 24, 1894, and moved to Manhattan's Lower East Side the following year. After graduating from New York City's Public School #1, he worked for a mail-order business. He married Marcia Popick, and they had two sons.

During World War I, Private Feldman spent 14 months in France with the Rainbow Division. He survived exposure to mustard gas and, as company clerk, wrote his own discharge papers. After the war, Feldman worked for his uncle, Herman Freed, in the millinery business. He became general manager for a chain of stores in New York.

Feldman assembled a general collection of United States coins and

specialized collections of Hard Times and Civil War tokens. He was one of the few people at the



time who collected presidential inaugural medals.

His numismatic interests drifted to paper money, and he assembled a fine collection of large-size U.S. currency. He consigned parts of his collection to M.H. Bolender for auction on March 31, 1951.

In the 1950s, Feldman opened a small coin shop on 47th Street in the Jewelry Mart in New York City. How small was it? He described it as "the world's smallest coin shop." He worked there part time until retiring from the millinery business.

Profit was never Feldman's motive for buying and selling numismatic books, catalogs and periodicals. He used his retail store to share his love of literature with other collectors.

He transported a large stock of books to area coin shows and ANA conventions. Often he sold books at cost to beginning collectors to encourage them to learn more. Feldman closed his retail shop in the 1960s, but continued to do business by mail. His fixed-price lists also featured the heading "BUY THE BOOK BEFORE THE COIN."

Feldman sold off portions of his accumulated library until age and poor health made it impossible to continue. Then he approached literature dealer Frank Katen to sell his remaining library at auction, but Katen's next two sales were filled. Being impatient, Feldman consigned his library to Swann Galleries, and it was sold on November 29, 1973.

He wanted his library to go to other collectors. "My pet peeve is people who give their libraries to institutions. They just gather dust in basements in places like that. I want my books to go to the people who appreciate them and will use them."

The sale of Feldman's library brought almost \$13,000. About 30 bidders attended the sale; others participated by mail. The 225 lots included many groups of items packed in boxes. A selection of 90 catalogs from 19th-century American

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Rowley, History of Half Dollar Varieties (2050-2059).....	2059 25.00
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Rowley, History of Half Dollar Varieties (2070-2079).....	2079 25.00
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numismatic auctions brought the highest price of the sale at \$475. Two lots of more than 500 auction catalogs brought \$425 each, or less than a dollar per item. One of these boxes had catalogs from James Kelly, B. Max Mehl and Wayte Raymond; the other had Stack's catalogs from the 1940s to the '70s.

A group of 250 publications from the American Numismatic Society realized \$400. Back issues of *The Numismatist* did not do well: a long run from 1944 through 1958 realized only \$65, about a third of the pre-sale estimate.

The top price offered for a foreign-language reference was \$275 for a two-volume set of the 1708 work on Saxon coins, *Saxonia Numismatica*, written in Latin and German by Wilhelm Ernst Tentzel. Joseph F.

Loubat's *Medallic History of the United States of America, 1776-1876*, realized \$160, the highest bid for a single American reference.

George S. Lowry, president of Swann Galleries, expressed his pleasure with the sale: "We usually sell numismatic materials as throwaways. From what I've seen at this sale, though, there's a great deal of interest in the subject, and if we have an opportunity to do this again, we will do it. In fact, we may put together another sale like this on our own."

While such public comments praised the sale, Feldman expressed his private anguish that he sacrificed his library at such low prices. Literature crammed in boxes was difficult to examine and evaluate. Although many lots brought more than estimated, they probably brought less

than fair value. Feldman sat in the back of the room during the sale and complained to Katen, "See what you did to me."

Perhaps Feldman's legacy passed to Katen, who continued to sell numismatic literature until he was in his 90s. I recall Katen mentioning in 1995 that he still had boxes from the Feldman sale in his basement, yet to be unpacked.

Late in life, Feldman suffered from Parkinson's disease and was unable to read or write. He died at his home in Scarsdale, New York, on March 16, 1976.

In 1991 the Numismatic Bibliomania Society endowed an award for numismatic literature exhibits at ANA anniversary conventions. The award appropriately is named for Aaron Feldman.

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1886-S	\$30.00	1894-S	\$70.00
1888-S	\$24.00	1895-O	\$160.00
1889-CC (VF)	\$325.00	1895-S	\$310.00
1889-S	\$21.00	1896-S	\$100.00
1890-CC	\$38.00	1898-S	\$17.00
1891-CC	\$38.00	1899-S	\$20.00
1892	\$16.00	1900-S	\$20.00
1892-CC	\$85.00	1901	\$35.00
1892-O	\$13.00	1901-S	\$35.00
1892-S	\$110.00	1902-S	\$55.00
1893	\$85.00	1903-S	\$175.00
1893-CC	\$350.00	1904-S	\$125.00
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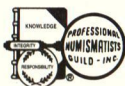
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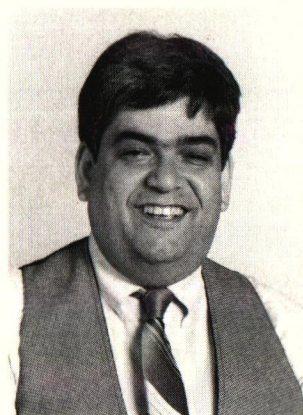
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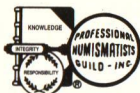
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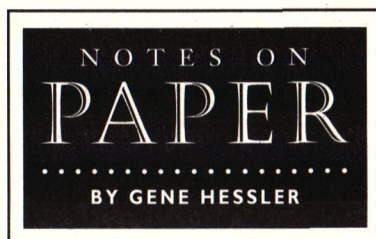
LM #664

Schmidt Engraved Moses for Terezin Notes

I COUNT A number of bank-note engravers among my favorites; however, this month my subject is Czech engraver Jindra Schmidt, who was born in 1897. Before his death in 1984, I was fortunate to receive some personally inscribed copies of his engravings. Since my mother's maiden name was Schmidt, I had tried to find out if his family came from Berlin as mine did (perhaps we were related), but unfortunately poor health kept him from responding before he died.

Jindra Schmidt is recognized as one of the premier Czech engravers. In addition to paper money for Czechoslovakia, Slovakia, and Bohemia and Moravia, he engraved bank notes for Cuba, Guinee, Mali, Poland and Romania. An excellent and inexpensive example of his engraving is the portrait of Peter Brandl on the Bohemia and Moravia

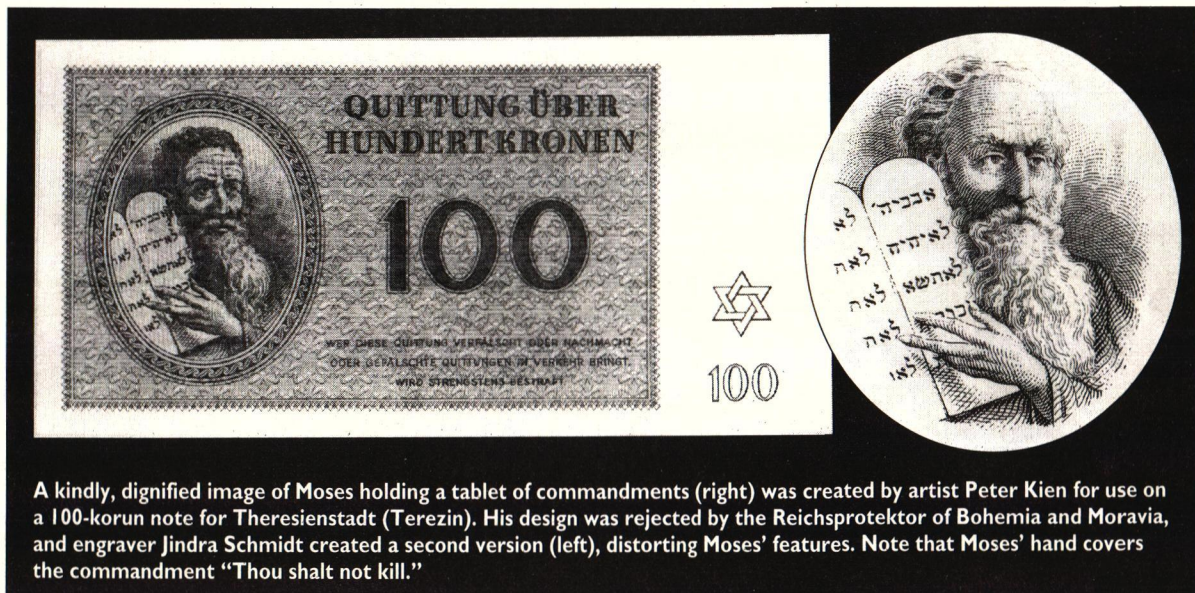
500-korun note, P(ick)-11. His expertise also was utilized in engraving postage stamps.



One of the assignments I'm certain Schmidt would rather not have received, however, was an order to engrave a portrait of Moses: not because of the subject, but because of its intended use. In 1939 the occupying Germans wasted no time in placing a flag on the 18th-century fortress of Theresienstadt (Terezin), and transforming it and its surroundings into a ghetto and place of

transit to Auschwitz. This is the place the Germans used as a model of their humanitarianism, which they showed representatives of the Red Cross and others who wished to convince themselves and accept the German deception. Representatives of the International Red Cross and other visitors were announced well in advance, allowing plenty of time for cosmetic alterations to give the appearance of a clean and happy (ghetto) village. During such visits, clad in clothing that hid the emaciated bodies of the "villagers," children played openly until the visitors left. A string quartet would play Brahms or Mozart in the courtyard.

To make Theresienstadt appear even more normal, paper money was created in 1943, even though there was nothing to purchase except some items confiscated from the internees. Peter Kien, an artist imprisoned at



Theresienstadt, was ordered to design notes in seven denominations.

Kien's image of Moses holding a tablet of commandments was rejected by Reinhard Heydrich, the Reichsprotektor of Bohemia and Moravia, where the camp was located. The dignified portrait of Moses did not look "Jewish" to him. The kindly portrait was a tribute to the historic Moses; but extreme hatred for the Jews demanded a different image, one that did not suggest dignity and kindness. The hand of Moses was conveniently placed over the commandment "Thou shalt not kill," a detail Heydrich most certainly demanded.

Jindra Schmidt engraved a second version of Moses, but the Germans were not totally happy with it; Heydrich wanted the facial features dis-

torted and even more lines added to the forehead. Nevertheless, notes with Schmidt's second version were offset-printed. Relatives were duped into sending money to the Bank of Jewish Self-Administration, where it was converted into Terezin crowns and carefully deposited in the appropriate name. The only ultimate use for these Terezin crowns by the unfortunate internees was for deposits on books in the library. No one bothered to ask for the return of their deposits.

I own a set of these notes because they are pieces of history—ugly as the reminder might be—and because of my admiration for the engraver. Complete sets of these notes, in denominations of 1 to 100 kronen, are available and reasonably priced.

Schmidt had another encounter

with the occupying Germans when he was forced to remove the liberty cap, a symbol of freedom, from the figure on the 50-korun note (P-5) intended for Bohemia and Moravia. After the war, the figure *with* the cap appeared on a Czech 100-korun note (P-67). For about \$10, you can purchase both of these historical notes, one with and one without the liberty cap. The Terezin notes are tangible reminders of an unfortunate period in the 20th century that should never be forgotten.

For more information about the cap, see "A Symbol of Czechoslovak Liberty," *The Numismatist*, July 1992, p. 958. For more about Theresienstadt, consult issues No. 73 and 76 of *The Shekel*, official publication of the American Israel Numismatic Association. •

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Treasure of Xerxes Huge Hoard of Silver Buried circa 450 BC

And now, as he looked and saw the whole Hellespont covered with the vessels of his fleet and all the shore and every plain about Abydos as full as possible of his men, Xerxes congratulated himself upon his good fortune; but after a little while he wept. His uncle Artabanus, who was with him at the time, asked about this strange expression of contradictory feelings. 'I was thinking,' Xerxes replied, 'and it came into my mind how pitifully short human life is...'

Herodotus VII, 45-46

his moment in history described by the ancient historian Herodotus was perhaps one of the greatest military undertakings in history given the current technology. The accounts relate that the great Persian king Xerxes amassed an army of 1,700,000 men for his invasion of Greece in 480 BC. An entire city was needed to feed the army just two meals, and an entire river ran dry when they drank. And, huge quantities of silver coins were struck to finance the massive military payroll and all the expenses of huge military operations. The Hellespont was the waterway, at least a mile wide, connecting the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea and separating Europe from Asia Minor. In order to move his vast army, Xerxes commanded his engineers, mostly Phoenecians and Egyptians, to build a bridge. To do this, 674 ships were tied together in a double row and planks were laid over the decks. The planks were covered with brushwood and dirt to create a road. Xerxes invaded Greece and very nearly succeeded in conquering the civilized world.

As the Persians moved through northern Greece, they were met at the pass of Thermopylae, where 300 Spartans led by Leonidas fought to the last man, and successfully delayed the Persian advance long enough for the Greek cities to prepare. Although Xerxes captured Athens, the Athenians had fled with their fleet to the nearby island of Salamis where the Persian fleet was defeated by the more experienced Athenian navy. The army of the allied Greek city-states, led by Spartans was able to defeat the Persian army at Plataea in 479 BC and effectively ended Xerxes attempted conquest of Greece.

Xerxes is long dead, but his observations on the brevity of human existence still apply today, even though we average more than twice the usual life span of the ancients. By collecting, studying and handling the coins of the ancients, our human experience can be greatly enhanced. In our hands we have relics of great kings who commanded huge armies to conquer kingdoms now vanished. These treasures of precious metals that are now unearthed from the former paths of these ancient armies are sometimes the only tangible links that we have to those battles. Now you can expand your horizons to the Fifth Century BC with a modest contribution to the Jonathan K. Kern Co.

This hoard of silver was composed of over 100 pounds of struck sigloi. A single siglos averages 5.55 grams of nearly pure silver and depicts the Great King of Persia as an archer in an

action pose. Some interpret his posture as the archaic art expression of running, and others describe him as kneeling. These coins were struck with a heavy sledge hammer on very thick oblong planchets, much like silver bullets, with a handheld upper die depicting the archer. The lower die was probably embedded in wood or stone to secure it. The lower, or reverse die of these coins, was used in the manner of the very first coins ever produced in the world. This lower die was a roughly rectangular raised metal lump, appearing in hundreds of mysterious variations. The raised reverse die creates an incuse impression for the backs of the sigloi. Museum studies now in progress utilize the reverse incused impressions for quick die referencing, since the obverse impression of the Great King is frequently off center. These coins represented a huge explosion in the production of coined money, and were struck rapidly to fill the need for pre-weighted silver authorized by a powerful ruler.

The Great King is shown holding a spear and a bow on the sigloi attributed to the Asia Minor mint of Sardeis, in Lydia and a bow and dagger on the other type which are possibly all from a different mint further south. Frequently they are countermarked with tiny punches by merchants or bankers, possibly to attest to the quality of the silver. We can sell either type in a **nice fine grade for \$37 each**, a **nice very fine for \$77 each** or a **nice extremely fine for \$277 each**. The raised obverse always grades much less than the incused reverse so our nice fine will usually have an extremely fine reverse.



Spear and bow VF



Common Reverse



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A Man of the Hobby . . . and the Century

THIS STORY IS not about a coin. Nor is it about a great collection. It does not even concern a great numismatist, at least not per se. It presents instead another facet of a man who has influenced our hobby as much as, if not more, than any other person in the last half of the 20th century.

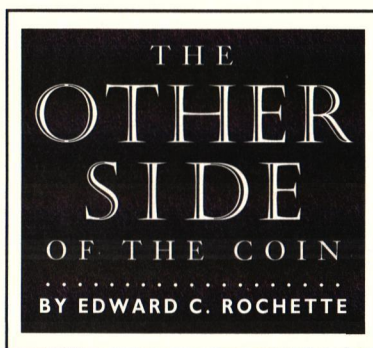
The story of Chester L. Krause's numismatic life is well recognized throughout our hobby. He has received all of our Association's major awards, including the Medal of Merit and the Farran Zerbe Memorial Award for Distinguished Service. He is enshrined in the ANA's Numismatic Hall of Fame.

As a publisher, Chet Krause gave life to two weekly coin newspapers that serve the hobby today. In 1952 he founded *Numismatic News*, a newsprint tabloid designed to help collectors buy, sell and trade coins. The paper grew in popularity, attracting the attention of a publisher in Sidney, Ohio—J. Oliver Amos. He, too, thought about producing a hobby newspaper, but one that focused on the ABCs of collecting—antiques, boats and coins!

Although Amos Press printed a local daily newspaper, as well as a publication for stamp collectors, the company had a great deal of press time on its hands. In the late 1950s, officials from Amos Press visited Iola, Wisconsin. Chet Krause gladly opened up his books and records. It was he who showed J. Oliver Amos that coins and coin collecting could stand alone in the field of publishing. Within a short time after the visit, *Coin World* debuted.

The decades leading to the end of

this century record the success of Krause Publications. The enterprise has grown from just a few employees



to hundreds today, and many different hobbies now benefit from the publishing expertise in Iola.

A few years back, this expertise

was recognized in a very meaningful way. Chester L. Krause was named Wisconsin's Small Business Man of the Year, and he was a runner-up in the national competition. In 1988 Chet was invited to attend the signing by Governor Thompson of Wisconsin's new Fair Employment Law. The ceremonies were held on the campus of Rawhide, a ranch for boys near New London, Wisconsin.

Founded in 1965, Rawhide is home for some 90 boys between the ages of 13 and 17, most of them aggressive young men with extensive delinquency records. Enrollment is limited to referral by a social service agency or juvenile judge. The boys must spend a minimum of one year at Rawhide. In addition to classes, they have eight work-training days a month.



The new fieldhouse at Rawhide (above), a ranch for delinquent boys near New London, Wisconsin, is named for benefactor Chester L. Krause, known to hobbyists as the man behind some of today's most successful numismatic publications.

The measure of the program's success can be found in records maintained by the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. Seventy-seven percent of all court-placed boys who spend a year or longer at Rawhide are never incarcerated again. That impressed Chet Krause. At the close of the governor's signing ceremony in 1988, Chet asked founder John Gillespie if he could return the next day for a more extensive tour of the facilities. Chet's visit changed the direction of Rawhide as much as he changed the direction of our hobby.

Those of us familiar with Chet know that he has never pulled a punch. "If this is such a successful program for delinquent boys," he asked Gillespie, "why are there just two houses with only nine boys each?"

Chet requested to see the ranch's five-year plan for development and expansion. Told there was none, Chet challenged Rawhide officials to develop one. If they did, he promised to help raise funds to implement it. It took a year of meetings between business leaders and social-service personnel to develop a viable and promising program.

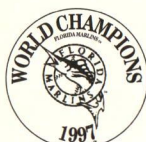
Krause Publications' resources were tapped to produce promotional material for Rawhide. Chet Krause's love of old cars came to the fore. In 1990 Rawhide secured the help of the Wisconsin Automobile and Truck Dealers Association to build a fourth Children's Home. Today, more than 4,000 used cars, boats and recreational vehicles are donated each year to Rawhide. Their repair (at the on-campus Rawhide Carriage

Company building) and subsequent sale provides vocational training for the young men and much needed income for the ranch. Chet was one of the major donors toward the construction of this facility.

In December 1996, John Gillespie called on Chet Krause to chair a fund drive to raise \$1 million for the construction of a fieldhouse. Chet asked for time to think it over. The day before Christmas, Chet called back and hesitatingly confessed that he was uncomfortable serving on a fund-raising committee. Instead, would John accept from him a check for \$1 million?

On the first Saturday of this October past, a state-of-the-art sports facility was dedicated at Rawhide. Quite appropriately, it is named the "Chester L. Krause Fieldhouse." •

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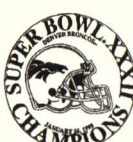
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The Praiseworthy Side of Buying

EACH DECEMBER I like to comment on the pleasant side of the hobby and review some of the really nice ads I see while searching for the scams I usually write about. I acquired this inclination from a New England newspaper (where I once worked) that published nothing but good news on Christmas Eve.

Frankly, it didn't take much searching to find some really neat things to review. Ours is a wonderful hobby, and there are plenty of great dealers who treat you more like friends than customers.

Contrary to what you might think, I see many more honest, worthwhile

ads than the less-than-reputable kind. Buying from ads in numismatic publications is not dangerous or



even challenging—not if you use a bit of caution and common sense. These publications require advertisers to abide by a code of ethics that is designed to protect buyers and as-

sure that you get exactly what is promised in those ads.

Read all ads very carefully and decide if what is being promoted is what you think—or hope—it really is. That simple caveat can prevent disappointment and help insure satisfaction in all your coin purchases.

Recently an acquaintance asked me where he could purchase some special coins. I don't usually make recommendations, but in this case I felt confident that an advertiser in *The Numismatist* had just what he wanted. So I gave him the phone number and suggested he call. The man called back to say he had never had such a friendly and satisfying



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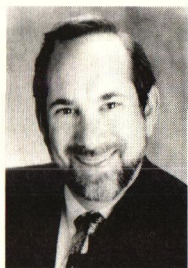
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Donald H. Kagin
Ph.D./Numismatics
ANA LM #724

DATE	YR. DENOM.	GRADE	COLONY	PRICE \$	DATE	YR. DENOM.	GRADE	COLONY	PRICE \$
18-Jun.	1776 1SH	New CC	CT-207	150	25-Mar.	1776 6sh	CU	NJ-178	175
11-Oct.	1777 5d	Gem CC	CT-8	185	25-Mar.	1776 6lb.	Choice New	NJ-183	420
31-Dec.	1776 5SH	Gem CC	DE-77	350	5-Jan.	1776 4sh	Choice CU	NY-183 Water Wrks	300
31-Dec.	1776 20SH	Gem CC	DE-80	325	1-Oct.	1773 5sh	AU	PA	225
	1776 1SH 6d	AU	GA-64	750	3-Apr.	1772 2sh 6d	VF	PA-157 John Morton	800
	1776 1/2\$	XF/AU	GA-70	575	30-Sep.	1773 20sh	Choice CU	PA-169	185
	3d	New	MA-255 Godfish	950	25-Mar.	1775 6sh	AU	PA-Lighthouse	285
1779	4sh 8d	Gem CU	MA-Rising Sun	1200	25-Mar.	1775 16sh	AU	PA-Lighthouse	250
15-Oct.	1778 3d	Choice CU	MA	995	2-Jul.	1780 \$7	Choice CU	R-287	195
5-May	1780 \$8	Choice CU	MA-284	145	May	1786 30sh	Ch/Gem CU	RI-299	250
10-Apr.	1774 1/3\$	Choice CU	MD-63	375	10-Apr.	1778 3sh 9d	Choice CU	SC	350
20-Feb.	1776 3lb	AU	NJ	295	23-Dec.	1776 \$3	Superb	SC	500
25-Mar.	1776 3sh	Choice CU	NJ	275	23-Dec.	1776 \$2	Very Choice CU	SC	600
31-Dec.	1763 6sh	New	NJ	225	23-Dec.	1776 \$4	Very Choice CU	SC	550
31-Dec.	1763 18d	Choice CU	NJ-1763	285	23-Dec.	1776 \$6	Choice CU	SC	425
25-Mar.	1776 3SH	Gem CU	NJ	275					

transaction. He found exactly what he wanted, at a price better than expected, and the item was shipped the next day. Magic? I don't think so. Most ANA dealers treat their customers this way.

If you are looking for a really good buy in numismatics, I must remind you that your ANA membership probably is the best investment you can make. Where else can you get so much for your dues' dollars? In addition to receiving *The Numismatist*, members can take advantage of free use of books from the ANA Resource Center, educational programs, two annual conventions and the Money Museum, and strengthen the numismatic community by adding their voices.

The tangible and intangible are there for your enjoyment. Your monthly magazine has scores of coins advertised by dealers you can trust for good value and service. You have the fabulous MoneyMarket, where you can purchase all sorts of accessories by mail directly from the ANA. I have yet to be disappointed with any of these dealings, and I doubt you will either.

File #571

Where are the good deals in United States coins today? Are there any? I believe there are, and they are not too hard to find. To get the best prices, you have to experiment a bit with different dealers, but there are bargains to be had, and the market is right to buy those special coins you may have put off purchasing.

Many of us still remember when MS-65 Morgan dollars were selling for close to \$400 each and there weren't enough to go around. Times have changed, and so have the prices. Today MS-65 dollars seem to be even better looking, and they are

ever so much cheaper. Are they a bargain? Well they sure seem to be, and I don't see how the prices can go much lower. The strange thing is, there still is a big demand for nice pieces like high-grade dollars, type coins, gold and scarce dates. And prices now are at reasonable levels.

Will prices stay low? Are choice coins a real bargain at these prices? Let's see—demand is strong; the coins are nicer than ever; there is no increase in the number of good coins available; and trading has been brisk for over a year now. Well, that sure sounds like a winning combination to me. If those coins were once in demand at prices four or five times what they sell for now, they surely must be worth what they are selling for today.

File #572

Have you looked at the prices of gold coins lately? If you haven't, this is the time to do some shopping. U.S. gold prices have probably reached the low point.

Many world gold coins can now be had for near melt value. British sovereigns and other European classics are readily available at low prices. Mexican and Canadian issues, and just about everything except rare dates, are attractively priced.

File #573

When are modern U.S. commemorative coins a bargain? (This is not a trick question.) They can be when you buy them in the secondary market. I have seen many such ads lately in coin newspapers and magazines. They offer modern commemoratives at prices that seem quite reasonable when compared to the issue price. These are legitimate offerings. Prices come down when coins are put on the market by non-collectors

who bought on impulse and later decide to sell.

If you collect commemorative issues, you would do well to investigate the secondary market. If the pieces are sealed in original government holders, there is little danger they are damaged or impaired.

They usually are a really good bargain and a relatively inexpensive way to fill in your collection. The only drawback is that you often have to wait a few years before the items you want are available. Some collectors consider the wait a fair trade-off for lower prices. A little careful shopping can bring some good buys.

File #574

If you haven't seen the new United States Mint catalog, you will be surprised to see the great variety of offerings. I didn't find any outstanding bargains, but many things simply can't be purchased elsewhere.

Take, for instance, the men's and women's watches made with 1/2- and 1/10-ounce platinum Eagle coins, respectively. On the face of the watch is the coin's Flying Eagle reverse; on the back of the watch is the coin's Statue of Liberty obverse. At \$899 and \$499, respectively, they are among the priciest items in the catalog. Thankfully, there is a cautionary note to the effect that coins used in watches are altered and do not retain their numismatic value.

Proof sets, uncirculated coins, commemoratives and a bookmark are featured in this year's Mint offerings. You can even buy defaced dies, cuff links, earrings and an Indian Head money clip. What a change from years ago when the Mint didn't even want to sell coins to collectors! You can order your copy of the catalog by calling the Mint at 202/283-2646. •



LOUIS ELIASBERG—AMON CARTER—THE NORWEBS WHAT DID THEY HAVE IN COMMON?

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The Copper Coinage of 1799

continued from page 1356

problems arising from the French Revolution in the early 1790s.)

The Mint director had not yet received Boulton's letter when he sent one of his own dated April 22. Boudinot again asked for copper cent planchets, but also mentioned his need for die steel and requested Boulton's help in obtaining several hundred pounds of the latter. Meanwhile, on April 19 the *Amelia* sailed from Liverpool with 60 casks of cent planchets (10 tons, or approximately 930,000 pieces), most of which were stored in the hold as ballast.

The ship arrived at the Philadelphia docks at the end of June, but several days passed before the copper blanks were unloaded. Boudinot was irritated to discover that about 185,000 planchets had been exposed to excessive moisture in the ship's hold. Most of these had turned black from the saltwater and had to be scoured before being struck. However, the remaining 745,000 blanks were of Boulton's usual high quality.

By July 19, official records noted that two tons of cent planchets had been sent to the Mint's coining department, although this probably is bookkeeping fiction. In reality, two tons likely had been weighed and readied for coining, while the remaining eight tons were being checked.

It is not clear just when copper coinage resumed, as the first records of cent disbursement did not appear until early August 1799. By the latter part of the month, however, production was in full swing, and copper coins left the Mint by the tens of thousands. By August 26, 185,000 cents had been struck from Boulton's July delivery of planchets. (The date is significant, for it was about

this time that the Mint closed because of an epidemic of yellow fever. The facility did not reopen until early November, indicating the coining rooms were idle for more than 70 days.)

Unbeknownst to Boudinot, Boulton had sent another shipment of planchets in June 1799, this time amounting to more than 17 tons, or about 1.6 million blanks. They arrived at the Philadelphia docks in late September, but because of the deadly pestilence, could not be brought to the Mint until after it reopened. Because of another increase in the price of copper, the new planchets cost the United States government about 8 mills each, or .8 cents. (The planchets in the July 1799 shipment cost 7.6 mills each, while those delivered in 1798 were 6.4 mills each.)

Demand for cents seems to have been light after the Mint's reopening, but picked up toward the end of November. By December 4, more than 200,000 cents had been receipted for, but demand soon fell off. During the fourth quarter of 1799, only 246,000 cents were distributed to banks, businesses and the public. Some were sent to seacoast customs houses, which served the public's small requests.

Although demand was down noticeably in the last weeks of 1799, Boudinot wanted to keep workmen occupied, and another 200,000 pieces were produced in the latter part of the month, despite the lack of a ready market. It was only a matter of time, however, until these, too, were shipped out of the Mint and coinage of cents resumed in force.

When it came to copper coinage, Director Boudinot found himself in a far better position at the end of 1799 than he had been in the year

before. Not only did he have a stockpile of more than 200,000 cents ready for distribution, but nearly 300,000 planchets from the July shipment remained to be struck. On top of that, he had another 1.6 million planchets that were delivered in early November. In all, he had more than 2 million cents in reserve to satisfy public demand in 1800. The Mint had managed to strike 904,585 cents and 12,167 half cents in 1799, not a bad record considering all the problems that had to be overcome. •

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Award-winning author Robert W. Julian specializes in the early history of United States coinage. A 1992 recipient of the Numismatic Literary Guild's prestigious Clemmy Award, he recently was inducted into the ANA's Numismatic Hall of Fame. His last article for THE NUMISMATIST, "Poor Relation: The Half Cent of 1802" (November 1997), earned him a second-place Wayte and Olga Raymond Memorial Literary Award.

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The ANA will mail requested catalogs via U.S. Postal Service book rate, requiring only reimbursement for postage. For specific sales or a list of available catalogs, contact the ANA Library at 818 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279, telephone 719/632-2646 (ext. 166 or 169), fax 719/632-5208 or E-mail analib@money.org.

■ In addition to auction catalogs,

the Library recently received some important book donations. George Korb (whose brother Cosmas had been an American Numismatic Association member for more than 50 years) wrote to the Library offering to donate books from his brother's estate. The list of books included a number of titles the Library did not have, as well as others that did not circulate because the Library had only a single copy.

The 13 books, several of which are leather- and vellum-bound, cover papal medals and ancient coins. Printed in Italian and English, most were published in the last century, with three in the 1700s and one in 1679. At the donor's request, each book will bear a bookplate designating the donor as Father Cosmas Korb. Because of their age and condition, several of the books will be placed in the Library's rare book room, while others will augment our circulating collection of books about

Papal medals and ancient coins.

■ Another donation, this time from well-known author Q. David Bowers, is a first-day issue of his newest work, **American Numismatics before the Civil War: 1760-1860, Emphasizing the Story of Augustus B. Sage** (ANA Library Cat. No. GB60.B6). In the "Author's Introduction," Bowers explains to readers, "Getting to know Augustus B. Sage and his numismatic era through papers, tokens and other items surviving today has been a great pleasure. Although the present commentary goes far beyond what is needed to delineate Sage and his productions, it was very enjoyable to me to contemplate what Sage experienced in his prime years of activity, 1857-1861 . . . The more research I did, the more I was eager to do. The entire project became very exciting."

Certainly many of our patrons can identify with Dave's excitement in finding that long-sought, elusive bit



This rare book, published in 1679 by Batista Bussotti in Rome, Italy, is entitled *Scelta de Medaglioni Piv Rari Nella Bibliotheca dell Eminentiss. et Reverendiss. Principe Il Signor Cardinale Gasparo Carpegna Vicario di Nostro Signore*. The 7 x 9-inch, vellum-bound volume is a donation from the estate of Father Cosmas Korb.

of information. I hope the ANA Library can further your own research efforts and heighten your enjoyment of the hobby.

The 8½ x 11-inch, hardbound, 429-page book includes numerous illustrations, several appendixes describing Sage's numismatic activities and contemporaries, and a selected bibliography. Priced at \$89.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling, the book is available from Bowers and Merena Galleries, Inc., Box 1224, Wolfeboro, NH 03894-1224 or the ANA MoneyMarket Store, 818 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279.

■ Finally, our third donation is a copy of David R. Sear's newest book, **The History and Coinage of the Roman Emperors 49-27 BC** (ANA Library Cat. No. BC85.S4h).

The beautifully illustrated, 8 x 10-inch, 360-page, hardbound book has been awaited eagerly by collectors. Together with a highly readable and informative text, it includes two appendixes covering the "Chronological Conspectus of Roman Coin Issues" and "Local Coinages of the Imperial Period." Completing the book are maps illustrating the events of 49-27 B.C. and indicating the location of local mints; a table of comparative rarities and values; a concordance; indexes of Roman coin legends, types and mints; and an index to the historical narrative. Published by Spink and Son, Ltd., 5, 6 & 7 King St., St. James's, London SW1Y 6QS, it can be ordered from the author (price \$85 plus \$6 shipping and handling) at P.O. Box 5004, Chatsworth, CA 91313-5004,

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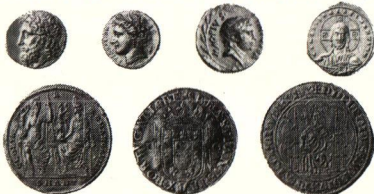
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Pretty Maids All in a Row

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in Philadelphia at a cost of \$400. (Omaha coin dealer Leonard Owen believed he could distinguish between the different reverse dies based on the position of the horse's tail in relation to the medal's rim.)

Mintage

ROUGHLY 25,000 MEDALS were struck during the five-month celebration. Census surveys of various collections indicate that about 20 gilt pieces were struck for every silver specimen. According to official figures, cash receipts from the sale of the medals totaled \$5,963, with expenses of \$3,027, for a net profit of \$2,936.

The price of the medals is not

known for sure, but anecdotal evidence suggests the gilt pieces sold for 25 cents each and the silver for \$1. The souvenirs could be purchased at the Treasury exhibit or from vendors in booths and kiosks scattered around the Exposition grounds. Advertisements in local newspapers indicate that purchases of 50 or more were discounted to dealers.

In their 1963 book *So-Called Dollars*, Harold Hibler and Charles Kappen state that the brass medals were "scarce," which according to their rarity scale means that 501 to 1,500 specimens are known. They note that silver medals are "very scarce," indicating fewer than 500 pieces. But, for the right price, collectors can find both pieces with relative ease. (As the 100th anniversary of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition neared, the

price of gilt pieces, which always have been fairly common, increased from \$5 or \$10 to as much as \$50 each. The price of silver pieces likewise rose from around \$30 five years ago to \$120 to \$220, depending on condition and dealer stock.)

The Trans-Mississippi medals were thought to have been struck in silver, bronze, brass and copper (cataloged by Hibler and Kappen as 281, 282, 283 and 283a, respectively). However, based on reports of the era, it now appears they were struck in only two versions: fine silver and 24kt-gold-plated brass. Hibler and Kappen's assignment of numbers for bronze, brass and copper types possibly reflects various stages of wear on gold-plated pieces.

Specific gravity tests conducted on some of the gilt pieces suggest

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that the metallic composition of the planchets, probably supplied by the Schwaab Company, may have varied widely. Tested pieces varied from 5-percent zinc/95-percent bronze to 30-percent zinc/70-percent bronze. Thus, before receiving their layer of gold, planchets might have been anything from bronze (with a low zinc content) to brass (with a high zinc content).

Two Mules

BOTH THE OVERSE and reverse of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition medal have been mated with other dies. The "perfect woman" obverse was coupled with a rather plain-looking reverse that reads *SOUVENIR / FLORAL PARADE / AUGUST 5TH / 1898*. About 50 of these silver medals were struck especially for



Actual Size: 32mm

Dies were paired with the original Trans-Mississippi Exposition obverse and reverse to commemorate the Flower Day Parade (top) and Indian Congress (bottom).

GENE MUELLER

presentation to the 46 entrants in the "Flower Day" parade. A review of dealers' catalogs reveals that only two of these pieces have come on the market in the past 25 years.

A second mule is a little more common, but still much scarcer than the Trans-Mississippi medal. It couples the original reverse with a die bearing the legend *OMAHA / EXPOSITION / 1898*, encircled by *UNITED STATES INDIAN CONGRESS **. These gold-plated, brass pieces were presented to the approximately 550 Native American participants in the Indian Congress. With the exception of a single specimen, all known pieces are holed for suspension. The medal was presented with a certificate and possibly a ribbon for suspension; none of the certificates have survived.

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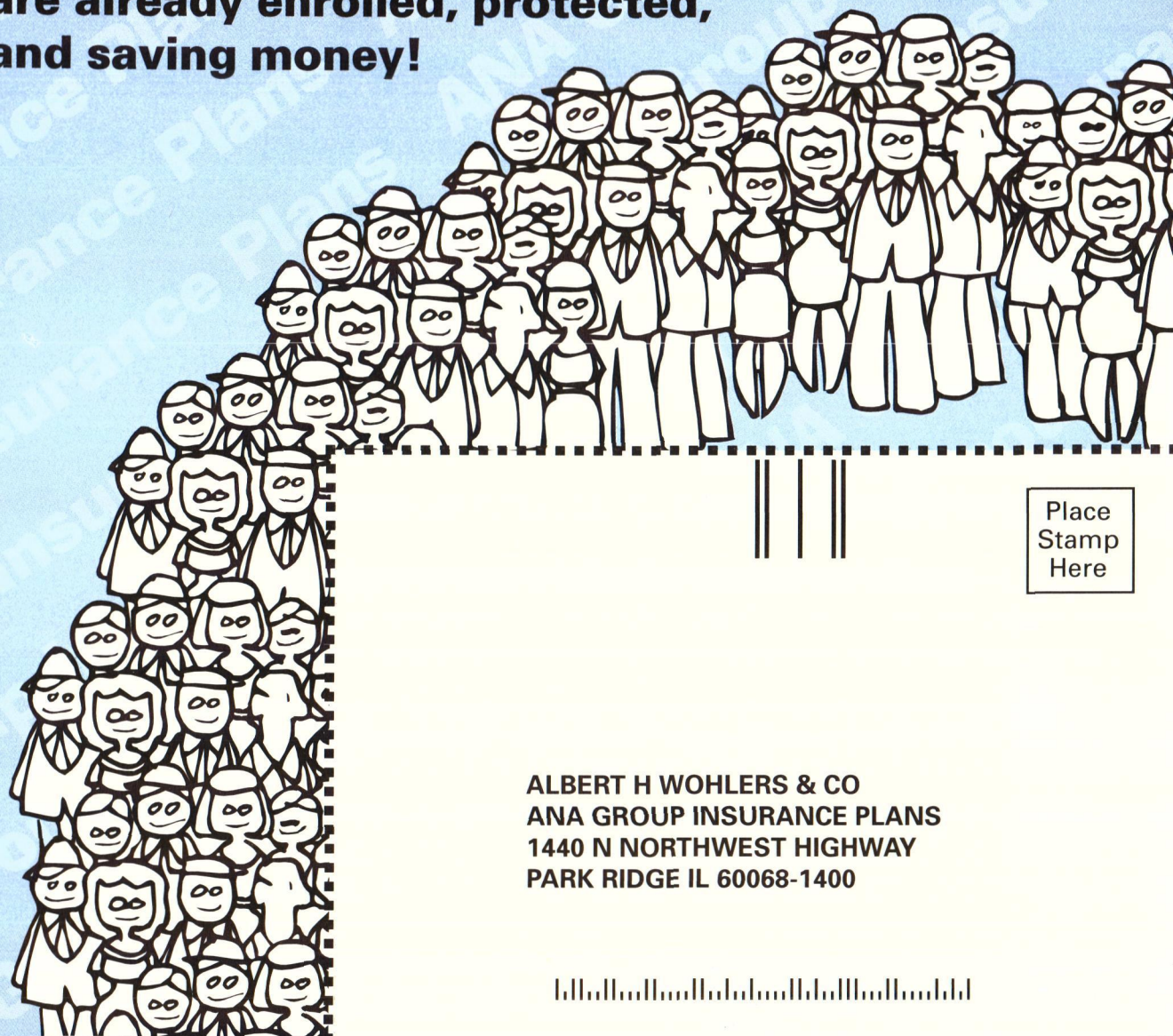
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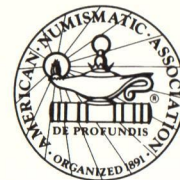
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It is not known exactly when these pieces were struck, nor who engraved (or punched) the dies for the two mulings. Speculation has centered on United States Mint employees, who would have been the only people allowed to handle the dies and minting equipment in the Treasury exhibit. They also would have had access to the tools and letter punches needed to fabricate such simple designs.

TODAY, VIRTUALLY NOTHING is left of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition. The buildings were torn down between 1899 and 1900, and the lagoon filled in with the rubble. The site now is covered with houses, and, except where a small park provides an oasis of green, the "White City" has disappeared forever.

However, Omaha rekindled memories of the great event during a 100th anniversary celebration, from June 1 through October 31, 1998. City, county and state museums, historical societies and libraries, including the Trans-Mississippi Exposition Historical Association, sponsored commemorative events. A beautiful scale model of the Grand Court, buildings and lagoon was constructed by local architects, and the Durham Western Heritage Museum in downtown Omaha mounted a display of photographs and objects from the Expo.

Still, one of the best ways to recall the colorful event is to gaze upon the official medal. Just as event organizers envisioned, this souvenir remains one of the most poignant reminders of a time—and an idealism—long passed.

Acknowledgments

I WOULD LIKE to thank Gene Mueller and Jeffrey Spenser for their insights and assistance in editing this article. •

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Lawrence J. Lee is associate curator of the Durham Western Heritage Museum in Omaha, Nebraska. His last contribution to THE NUMISMATIST, "Dr. Mumey, the G-Man and the J.J. Conway Dies" (June 1997), earned him the first-place Wayne and Olga Raymond Memorial Literary Award.



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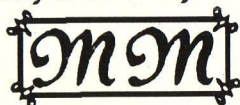
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Membership News



Kraljevich to Direct Education Department

Gail Baker Kraljevich, an ANA volunteer for many years, has been named to head the ANA's Education Department. Interim Executive Director Edward C. Rochette notes, "Gail's background and experience, particularly in regard to the ANA's Summer Seminar, are ideal for this position. Her talents, energy and ideas are well suited to continue the advances that have been made in the ANA's many educational programs."

For Kraljevich, a resident of Malvern, Pennsylvania, accepting the job in Colorado Springs, Colorado, was an easy decision. "My father taught zoology at Colorado College here in Colorado Springs," she says. "The first time I came here, I felt like I was home, and now I have the opportunity to step into a job that has a wonderful record and does so much for the ANA and the hobby."

Kraljevich brings a strong background in education to the job. Currently she is assistant to the dean at Malvern (College) Preparatory School, which has an enrollment of 575. Since 1991 she has worked with faculty, staff, students and administration in a number of areas, including computer software instruction, faculty scheduling and curriculum guidebook preparation. She also was co-founder and business manager of the Brandywine Academy for the



Gail Baker Kraljevich of Malvern, Pennsylvania, has been selected to head the ANA Education Department.

Gifted Learner from 1982 to 1988.

Kraljevich brings a solid understanding of the hobby to the job. "I gained my exposure to numismatics through my son, John, who began collecting when he was 7 or 8 years old," she says. "In 1989 I took him to the ANA convention in Pittsburgh, and I brought a book along to keep myself busy. On the first day of the show, I went to see what it was that interested my son and discovered the world of numismatics." In 1991 Kraljevich came to the Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs and took a class entitled "A Numismatic Tour of Colorado."

"I knew I had to learn to speak numismatics to understand my son through his teen years, because he was absolutely mesmerized by it," Kraljevich says. "But the Seminar class I took was a wonderful experience for me, and the next year I came back as a chaperon for the [young students]. I've been back every year since, and I started volunteering at

dealer registration at the ANA convention in Detroit in 1994."

Kraljevich officially begins her job next month and plans to review all ANA educational programs and update them as needed. One of her first jobs will be examining ways to expand the one-week Summer Seminar to two weeks beginning in 2000.

"I'm very excited to be working with Education Assistant Barbara Olson," Kraljevich says. "She has done a wonderful job and will be of great help as we look for ways to

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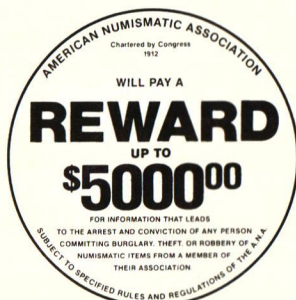
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ANA R141461

Membership News

mailed to members rather than bound into *The Numismatist*, as was the procedure for the last two elections. This decision, made by the Board of Governors in October, will ensure the integrity of the election process, raise the level of its importance and restore voter participation, says Interim Executive Director Edward C. Rochette.

Four years ago, the Board of Governors changed the ANA's Bylaws, allowing election ballots to be placed in *The Numismatist* instead of mailing them to members who are eligible to vote. The reasoning was economic—a projected savings of \$15,000.

"The savings turned out to be exaggerated, and member participation in the elections declined from nearly

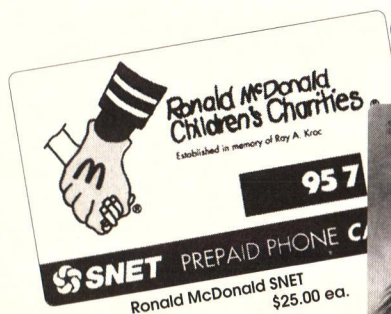
33 percent to about 15 percent," Rochette says. "The return to mailing the ballots also means that the care, custody and control of the election process will be in the hands of our outside auditing firm, which will print, mail and tabulate the ballots."

Hobbyists Receive Presidential Awards

In October, Anthony Swiatek honored a dozen numismatists for their support of the hobby by presenting each of them with the ANA Presidential Award. At a gathering of the Virginia Numismatic Association, Swiatek recognized the contributions of Keith Littlefield of Annandale and Steven Ellsworth of Clif-

ton. At the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists show, Swiatek was on hand to name award recipients Donald Carlucci of Cheswick, Richard Cross of Fogelsville, Chester Trzcinski of Frederick (Maryland), Dick Duncan of Lancaster, Wayne Homren of Pittsburgh and Gerald Kochel of Lititz.

ANA Governor H. Robert Campbell presented awards on Swiatek's behalf at the Utah Numismatic Society show to Ralph Muller and Chris Robertson, both of Salt Lake City. During the annual Kentucky State Numismatic Association show, ANA Regional Coordinator Don Young passed along Swiatek's recognition to Harry Tilestone of Louisville. At the Arkansas Numismatic Society's



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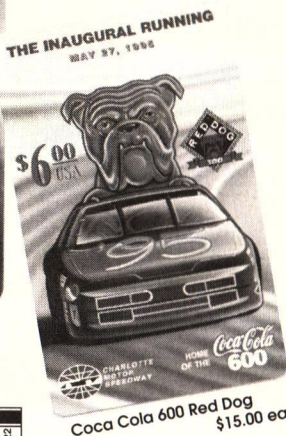
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Membership News

50th Anniversary Coin Show, ANA Interim Executive Director Ed Rochette bestowed the honor upon Robert Wilhite of Iola, Wisconsin.

Stock Market Declines Affect ANA Investments

Income for the first five months of the ANA's fiscal year totaled \$460,181—77.4 percent less than the budgeted projection of \$2 million. During the same period (April 1 to August 31), expenses amounted to nearly \$1.9 million, or 6.1 percent more than the \$1.8 million projected in the budget.

"Members are entitled to know the health of their Association," explains Interim Executive Director

Edward C. Rochette. "We originally anticipated a net income of \$178,715 by August 31."

However, the current financial situation does not mean the 107-year-old organization is broke. "Although we are not where we had hoped to be financially, the ANA remains healthy," Rochette says.

The primary cause of the budget deficit is a 7.8-percent decline in the ANA's investment earnings following this summer's drop in the stock market. The net worth of the ANA's \$15.3 million investment portfolio decreased by \$1.25 million. By comparison, the Dow Jones Industrial Average declined 12.4 percent in the third quarter of this year.

Even though the drop in expected

investment earnings is only a "paper loss," it does affect the Association's budget, according to Rochette. Without the inclusion of investment earnings, or unrealized losses, the ANA's deficit is \$234,789.

Other factors contributing to the budget deficit include:

- Unanticipated expenses over the first five months of the fiscal year included travel costs associated with Board meetings at both the Long Beach Coin & Collectible Expo in June and the ANA Summer Conference in July, and legal fees from lawsuits pending against the ANA.

- \$50,000 less than the \$150,000 in donations projected for the five-month period.

- Expenses totaling \$62,000 in-



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Membership News

curred in connection with the National Money Show in Cincinnati last March, but not received until after the close of the 1997-98 Fiscal Year, March 31. (The show made a profit, which was credited to the previous fiscal year.)

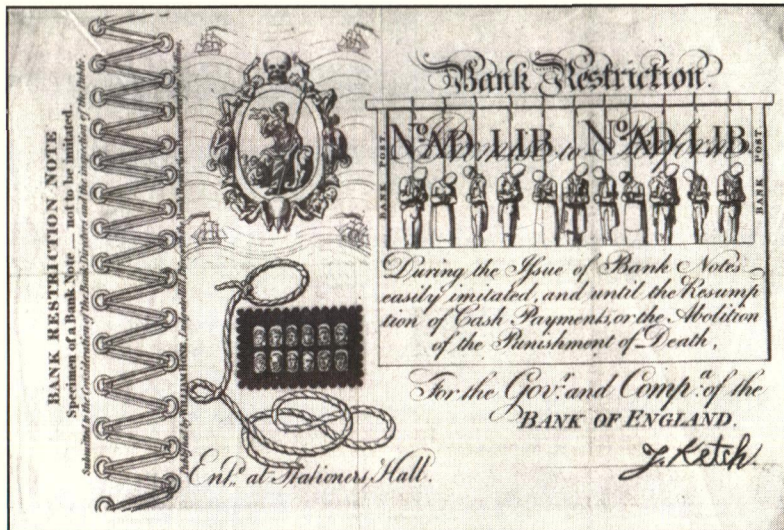
Chief Financial Officer Ruthann Brettell notes, "The budget was prepared using conservative estimates. However, even the best-laid plans can be upset by unforeseen circumstances. For example, when the budget was approved last March, two auction houses had just filed a lawsuit against the ANA, and we were uncertain how much our legal costs would be this year. Then the sudden departure in June of Executive Director Peggy Hofmann after eight weeks on the job, and her subsequent lawsuit, were totally unpredicted."

Brettell and Rochette say they will continue to closely monitor future expenditures. At this point, they do not foresee any need for cuts in staff or member services.

On-Line Exhibit Explores Counterfeiting in 1800s

In early 19th-century England, punishment for counterfeiting was harsh—death by hanging. However, a new exhibit in the ANA's "virtual museum" on its World Wide Web site (www.money.org) explains how artist George Cruikshank changed the government's method of dealing with such criminal activity.

Prepared by ANA Museum Curator Robert Hoge, the on-line exhibit pictures Cruikshank's satirical "Bank Restriction Note," which in 1818 helped convince the Bank of England to stop issuing money that was easily counterfeited, and led Parlia-



ment to reduce the severity of the punishment for the crime.

The note depicts 11 corpses suspended from a scaffold that is labeled "Bank Post"; the words "Promise to Perform"; and the signature "J. Ketch," referring to the proverbial hangman Jack Ketch, representing the Bank of England. The note also features a vignette of Britannia devouring a child, surrounded by people in the throes of death. The traditional abbreviation for pounds sterling, a cursive capital "L," is rendered as a hangman's noose.

The note was donated to the ANA Money Museum by benefactor J. Roy Pennell Jr. His gift included Cruikshank's original sketch for the note and an actual counterfeit £1 note stamped "forged."

Cruikshank's work and the forged note can be viewed in full color on the ANA's Web site. In addition, the "Curator's Cyber Corner" currently includes Best-in-Show exhibits and selections from the Bebee Collection of U.S. Paper Money.

ANA Management Information

Not Actual Size

George Cruikshank's "Bank Restriction Note" was instrumental in convincing the British government to ease up on its punishment of counterfeiters.

ANA MUSEUM

Systems Director Susie Nulty says, "Our Web site is an excellent method of introducing numismatics to a wide audience. In the last two and a half years, more than 180,000 people have visited the ANA's Web site." According to Nulty, the site also has proven to be one of the best ways to increase membership in the Association, with 14.5 percent of new recruits signing up via the Internet in the last six months.

ANA Responds to Hofmann Lawsuit

The complaint filed against the ANA by former Executive Director Peggy A. Hofmann is "frivolous and in bad faith," and demonstrates her failure to take steps to resolve problems she claims led to her dismissal. In the

Membership News

Call for Nominations

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1999-2001**

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To obtain nomination forms and guidelines, contact ANA Executive Offices, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279; telephone 719/632-2646; fax 719/634-4085; E-mail rochette@money.org; World Wide Web www.money.org; or ANA's Fax-on-Request service, 800/910-7224 (#201527).

Association's official response to the lawsuit, attorneys Janet A. Savage and Cynthia R. Kok state that the ANA's "actions were made on good faith, legitimate business justifications."

Last February, the ANA Board of Governors selected Hofmann from more than 200 applicants to oversee the day-to-day operations of the 28,000+ member organization. A law-school graduate, she was a corporate officer with a Wisconsin firm that worked in the areas of human resources, productivity and management development.

Hofmann began her duties at the ANA on April 16. Eight weeks later, on June 11, she notified the Board that she would no longer serve as executive director, indicating her wish

to end employment under the terms of her contract. Hofmann was placed on administrative leave and then terminated for cause on June 24. She filed her lawsuit against the ANA and Vice President Scott Travers on July 30 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where the ANA is headquartered.

The ANA denies that the Board, Travers or staff members withheld or concealed from Hofmann information about alleged "internal problems" at the ANA. She claims that withholding such information was part of a larger scheme to publicly embarrass and then remove her from the executive director's position. Travers has said the allegations against him are absolutely untrue.

"The ANA provided Ms. Hof-

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Membership News

mann with information regarding the operations of the Association," says ANA General Counsel Christopher Cipoletti. "We have discovered no evidence that there was a plot by the Board, any ANA members or any ANA staff to force her out of the position she held. We consider the lawsuit to be frivolous and will vigorously defend against it."

In the response to Hofmann's complaint, the attorneys hired by ANA's insurance carrier to defend the lawsuit cite a number of affirmative defenses. The ANA attorneys note that Hofmann's complaint:

- Does not provide for relief under the laws of Colorado.
- Waives any claims made in the lawsuit because of her actions while

on the ANA staff.

- Does not demonstrate that she took reasonable steps to correct the problems she alleges.

- Is prohibited because she did not give the ANA time to correct problems she perceived were preventing her from doing her job.

- Is "frivolous and in bad faith," entitling the ANA to attorneys' fees and costs incurred in its defense.

Curator Speaks at International Conference

ANA Money Museum Curator Robert W. Hoge was invited to present a paper on numismatics at the International Council of Museums (ICOM) conference in Melbourne,

Australia, in October. The 18th General Conference and 19th General Assembly was expected to attract about 2,000 delegates.

According to Conference Chairman Andrew Reeves, the theme of the conference—"Museums and Cultural Diversity—Ancient Cultures, New Worlds"—was intended to "challenge the museum community worldwide to think about the changes that will be necessary to remain relevant in the coming years."

Hoge was one of two American numismatic curators scheduled to speak at a meeting of the International Committee for Museums of Numismatics, an official division of ICOM. "My topic was 'Chinese Numismatics in American Museums,'

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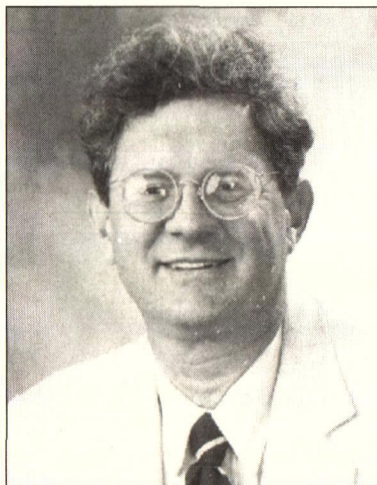
which surveyed the status of Chinese holdings in public collections in the United States, with a focus on the ANA," he says. "I recognize that most of our members collect United States material, but numismatics is much broader than just one country or one period of time.

"The American Numismatic Association has one of the foremost collections of Chinese numismatic material. It includes the collection of Dr. Thomas Henry Coole, with more than 1,500 pieces representing 2,200 years of Chinese coinage from the Zhou Dynasty (circa 350 B.C.) to the early 1900s; as well as the 500-book reference library on Chinese numismatics developed by Dr. Coole's son, the Reverend Arthur Braddan Coole. The library is possibly the best of its kind outside China." In addition, the ANA Money Museum recently received the collection of Dr. Marlowe E. Wegner, who served in China during World War II as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army Air Corps. Portions of the Wegner Collection were displayed at the ANA's World's Fair of Money® in Portland, Oregon, last August.

While in Melbourne, the ANA curator was the guest of a professor at the university there. "His generosity allowed me to make the most of my trip," says Hoge.

Bourse Tables to Be Assigned for Chicago

Dealers who have not already applied for table space at both 1999 American Numismatic Association conventions should do so now. The ANA's National Money Show in Sacramento, California, is scheduled for March 12-14, and the 108th An-



ANA Museum Curator Robert W. Hoge recently addressed the International Council of Museums in Melbourne, Australia.

niversary Convention in Chicago is slated for August 11-15.

Many dealers already have reserved space at both shows, and table numbers for the Chicago convention will be assigned at the Sacramento gathering. To be eligible for the table drawing, dealers must submit full payment no later than January 29, 1999. For details, contact the Convention Department.

Scriptwriters Needed for Money Talks Radio Show

New scripts are needed for *Money Talks*, the ANA's daily radio program on the history and lore of money. Aired Monday through Friday on more than 550 stations nationwide, the program also can be purchased on cassette tape. In addition, transcripts are posted on the ANA's Web site (www.money.org) and on request are available free of charge to listeners.

DONATIONS

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Each 2½-minute program is devoted to a single topic, which is limited only by the writer's creativity, varying from how this day in history is celebrated in numismatics to consumer protection, numismatic lore and hobby personalities. Scripts should be typed and approximately 275 to 300 words in length.

Scriptwriters receive a byline and \$30 for every new script that is aired. For complete guidelines and a sample script, or to propose topics for particular dates, contact the Education Department.

Membership News

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Calendar listings are published as a service to member clubs of the American Numismatic Association. Entries must be received at least eight weeks prior to the cover date of the magazine and preferably as much as four months in advance so announcements can appear in several consecutive issues. Type or print information and send to Calendar of Events, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279 or fax 719/634-4085. Receipt of show notices is acknowledged by post card; if you do not receive confirmation of your listing, contact the Publications Department.

EAST

DECEMBER

6 ALBANY, NY. Polish Community Center, Washington Ave. Extension. Capital District Coin Dealers Association Coin Show. J.F. Marcelli, 28 Locust Ave., Troy, NY 12180, telephone 518/274-4216.

20 CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. F.J. Donovan Post, 3210 Genesee St. Coin & Stamp Bourse & Coin Auction sponsored by the Erie County Coin & Stamp Club. Rolf Hjalmarsen, c/o Lazer Tree Grafics, 6589 Main St., Williamsville, NY 14221, telephone 716/633-4104.

20 SYRACUSE, NY. Ramada Inn, 1305 Buckley Rd. Coin Show conducted by the Onondaga Numismatic Association. Bourse Chairman Edmund J. Wlodarski, 8026 Trina Circle W., Clay, NY 13041-9159, telephone 315/699-3711.

JANUARY 1999

3 ALBANY, NY. Polish Community Center, Washington Ave. Extension.

ANA EVENTS

March 12-14, 1999 SACRAMENTO, CA. Sacramento Convention Center, 1400 "J" St. ANA National Money Show. Contact Convention Department.

April 18-24, 1999 National Coin Week. Contact Education Department.

July 10-16, 1999 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO. The Colorado College. 31st Annual ANA Summer Seminar. Contact Education Department.

August 11-15, 1999 CHICAGO, IL. Rosemont Convention Center, 9301 W. Bryn Mawr. ANA 108th Anniversary Convention. Contact Convention Department.

NATIONAL/REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & EVENTS

October 31-November 1 BLOOMINGTON, MN. Holiday Inn International Airport, 3 Appletree Sq. (I-494, Exit @ 34th Ave. S.). Minnesota Organization of Numismatists Annual Coin & Currency Show. Chairman Richard Townsend, P.O. Box 726, Rochester, MN 55903, telephone 507/288-0320.

November 12-15 HONOLULU, HI. Queen Kapiolani Hotel, 150 Kapahulu Ave. 35th Annual Hawaii State Numismatic Association Show. Bourse Chairman M.F. Kendrick, c/o HSNA, P.O. Box 477, Honolulu, HI 96809, telephone/fax 808/486-4766.

January 7-10, 1999 ORLANDO, FL. Orange County Convention/Civic Center, 9800 International Dr. 44th Annual Florida United Numismatists Convention. Cindy Grellman, P.O. Box 951988, Lake Mary, FL 32795-1988; telephone 407/321-8747; fax 407/321-5138. Includes Original Hobo Nickel Society Auction, Meeting & Educational Forum, OHNS, Box 1409, Malvern, PA 19355.

February 19-21 HONOLULU, HI. Blaisdell Exhibition Hall. 9th Annual Hawaii Collectors' Expo '99 sponsored by the Hawaii State Numismatic Association. HSNA, P.O. Box 477, Honolulu, HI 96809, telephone 808/486-4766.

Capital District Coin Dealers Association Coin Show. J.F. Marcelli, 28 Locust Ave., Troy, NY 12180, telephone 518/274-4216.

8026 Trina Circle W., Clay, NY 13041-9159, telephone 315/699-3711.

FEBRUARY 1999

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Membership News

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27-28 WEERTON, WV. Best Western Inn, Three Springs Dr. Ohio Valley Coin Association 50th Fall Coin Show. Terry Jones, 726 N. Third St., Toronto, OH 43964, telephone 740/537-4798.

SOUTH

DECEMBER

6 HOLLYWOOD, FL. Hollywood Rotary Club, 2349 Taylor St. (I-95, E. on Hollywood Blvd., N. on 24th Ave.). Gold Coast Coin Club Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show. GCCC, P.O. Box 910, Hollywood, FL 33022.

12 FT. MYERS, FL. Activity Center, 2646 Cleveland Ave. (I-75, W. on Colonial, N. on U.S. 41, in front of Lee Memorial Hospital). 33rd Annual Ft. Myers Coin, Currency & Stamp Show conducted by the Ft. Myers Coin Club. Michael Herbert, P.O. Box 6121, Ft. Myers, FL 33911.

JANUARY 1999

22-24 HOUSTON, TX. Astrohall, 8400 Kirby Dr. (next to AstroDome); Loop 610, Kirby Exit. 42nd Annual Money Show sponsored by the Greater Houston Coin Club. GHCC, P.O. Box 2963, Houston, TX 77252-2963.

23-24 VERO BEACH, FL. Community Center, 14th Ave. & 23rd St. Treasure Coast Coin Club 35th Annual Coin & Stamp Show. Chairman Jim Montgomery, P.O. Box 3373, Ft. Pierce, FL

34948, telephone 800/264-4765.

30-31 FT. MYERS, FL. Activity Center, 2646 Cleveland Ave. (I-75, W. on Colonial, N. on U.S. 41, in front of Lee Memorial Hospital). 3rd Annual Ft. Myers Coin, Currency & Stamp Show conducted by the Ft. Myers Coin Club. Michael Herbert, P.O. Box 6121, Ft. Myers, FL 33911.

FEBRUARY 1999

6-7 VICKSBURG, MS. Battlefield Inn (formerly Park Inn International), 4137 I-20 Frontage Rd., Exit 4B. 58th Vicksburg Coin Club Coin Show. Cason Schaffer, 107 East View Dr., Vicksburg, MS 39180, telephone 601/638-1195.

26-28 MEMPHIS, TN. Memphis Fairgrounds, Creative Arts Bldg. Memphis Coin Club Coin Show. Ray W. Brown, P.O. Box 40572, Memphis, TN 38174-0572, telephone 901/321-3408.

28 FT. MYERS, FL. Garden Council & Activities Center, 2646 Cleveland Ave. (U.S. Hwy 41). Ft. Myers Coin Club, Coin, Stamp & Currency Show. Bourse Chairman Michael A. Herbert, c/o FMCC, P.O. Box 6121, Ft. Myers, FL 33911.

CENTRAL

DECEMBER

12-13 OMAHA, NE. Holiday Inn Central, I-80 & 72nd St. 39th Annual Omaha Coin Club Coin Show. Tim Taysen, P.O. Box 435, Bellevue, NE 68005-0435, telephone 800/310-6902.

JANUARY 1999

24 GREEN BAY, WI. Comfort Suites/Rock Garden, 1951 Bond St. Nicolet Coin Club Spring Coin Show. Roger A. Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay,

WI 54313, telephone 920/499-7035.

24 MUNCIE, IN. Ball State University Student Center/Cardinal Hall, 2200 University Ave. Muncie Coin & Stamp Club 42nd Annual Show. Show Chairman Ray Saylor, P.O. Box 1184, Muncie, IN 47304, telephone 765/288-0371.

30-31 FARGO, ND. Doublewood Inn, 3333 13th Ave. S. Red River Valley Coin Club 39th Annual Coin, Stamp & Sportscard Show. Chairman Bob Hanna, 720 28th St. S.W., Fargo, ND 58106, telephone 701/298-3262, ext. 125.

FEBRUARY 1999

5-7 ST. LOUIS, MO. Henry VIII Hotel, 4690 N. Lindbergh Blvd. (Hwy. 67). St. Louis Numismatic Association 35th Annual Greater America Coin Fair. Mike Orlando, P.O. Box 1102, St. Louis, MO 63074.

7 BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI. Birmingham Masonic Temple, 357 Woodward Ave. Birmingham-Bloomfield Coin Club Annual Coin Show. John L. Frank, 725 S. Adams, Suite 21, Birmingham, MI 48009, telephone 248/644-8818.

7 ROCKFORD, IL. Holiday Inn-Hoffman House, 7550 E. State St. 85th Semi-Annual Coin Show sponsored by the Rockford Area Coin Club. Ralph Winkist, 1004 "C" St., Rockford, IL 61007, telephone 815/963-0396.

14 ROCHESTER, MN. Radisson Plaza Hotel, 150 S. Broadway. Rochester Coin Club Annual Winter Southern Minnesota Coin & Stamp Show. Chairman Jerry Swanson, P.O. Box 565, Rochester, MN 55903, telephone 507/289-5099.

28 FRANKSVILLE, WI. South Hills Country Club, 3047 Hwy. 94 Frontage Rd. (between Hwy. K & Hwy. 20). 61st Annual Coin & Collectible Show con-

Membership News

ducted by the Racine Numismatic Society. Bourse Chairman Jerome F. Binsfeld, Box 191, Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158, telephone 414/843-2321 (work) or 414/654-6272 (home).

WEST

DECEMBER

13 SCOTTSDALE, AZ. Elks Lodge (by the buttes), 6398 E. Oak St. Coin, Stamp, Post Card, Sports Card & Collectibles Show conducted by the Camelback Collectibles Club. Bob Phelan, P.O. Box 15005, Phoenix, AZ 85060, telephone 602/990-1007.

JANUARY 1999

3 SAN BERNARDINO, CA. National

Orange Show Events Center, Citrus Bldg. 36th Annual Coin & Collectible Show sponsored by the San Bernardino County Coin Club. Bill Grant, P.O. Box 295, Patton, CA 92369-0295.

28-30 TUCSON, AZ. Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Church Ave. 35th Annual Tucson Rare Coin Show conducted by the Tucson Coin Club. Show Chairman Tony Tumonis, P.O. Box 17021, Tucson, AZ 85731, telephone 520/326-8028.

FEBRUARY 1999

28 LIVERMORE, CA. Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur Dr. 36th Annual Coin Show sponsored by the Livermore Valley Coin Club. LVCC, P.O. Box 610, Livermore, CA 94551.

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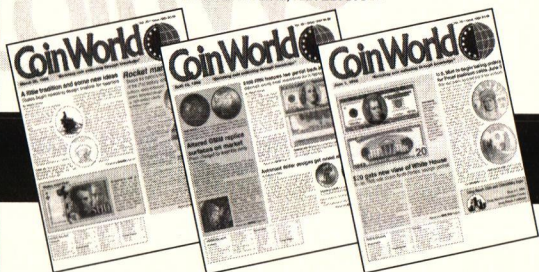
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Membership News

CLUB NEWS

The **Original Hobo Nickel Society** (OHNS) will hold its annual Hobo Nickel Auction and convention meeting—as well as the first-ever Hobo Educational Forum—in conjunction with the 44th Annual **Florida United Numismatists** (FUN) convention in Orlando, Florida, January 7-10. To get things started on the right track, the guest auctioneer and featured speaker will be “New York Greenie.” A true hobo, Euan Greene, a native New Yorker who rode the rails from coast to coast for more than 25 years, will relate some amazing tales and follow up with a question-and-answer ses-

sion, according to club secretary Gail Baker Kraljevich. His hobo exploits are documented in the book *Done and Been* by Gypsy Moon, Kraljevich reports. If you don't want to miss seeing New York Greenie in person, head for the FUN Convention on Saturday, January 9. To learn more, contact the OHNS at Box 1409, Malvern, PA 19355.

Members of the **San Bernardino County Coin Club** (SBCC) learned about the cultural intricacies of an authentic Chinese wedding ceremony at their September meeting, according to the club's award-winning newsletter, *The Coin Press*. Unfortunately, the bride could not attend—owing to the fact that it will take a few months for her to clear United

States Immigration. Bridegroom Alexander Akin spoke at an SBCC meeting in April 1997 about the subject of Chinese money and went on to relate his real-life experiences of living in China. During his studies, Akin met the young woman who has now become his wife. Alexander's parents, Kevin and Margie Akin, assisted in providing a firsthand overview of this very special occasion. Margie, who teaches at the University of California, Riverside, wrote an article about Chinese money entitled “When Wen Was Money” for the November issue of *The Numismatist*.

The **Central States Numismatic Society** (CSNS) has announced the establishment of a special award for

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Membership News

Most Educational Exhibit. The award, scheduled for presentation at the Spring 1999 show, will honor the late Dave Rasor of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. A founding member of the **Old Fort Coin Club**, Rasor vigorously participated in the hobby for 41 years, serving as club president three times and holding other key offices; editing the newsletter; and serving on the board of the Indiana State Numismatic Association.

The Central States Numismatic Society also is updating its archives. Readers with items relating to events sponsored by the society (such as show programs, announcements, badges, wooden nickels, medals or banquet tickets) are invited to contact Marvin Mericle, 1928 Dominion Dr., Ft. Wayne, IN 46815.

The Golden State Coin Show, co-sponsored by the **California State Numismatic Association (CSNA)**, **Numismatic Association of Southern California** and the **Council of International Numismatics** drew approximately 500 attendees on Labor Day weekend in Pasadena. Phil Iversen of the **San Diego Numismatic Society (SDNS)** was awarded the CSNA Medal of Merit, a first-place exhibit award, and Best-of-Exonomia and Best-of-Show Awards for his exhibit of North American Centennial medals. Other winning SDNS exhibitors were Kay Lenker (Ming note), Tom Fitzgerald (examples of musicians on currency) and Mo Fitzgerald, whose exhibit of elongated coins earned the People's Choice Award.

The **Louisville Coin Club** is celebrating its 50th anniversary with a commemorative medal. With an outline of the State of Kentucky and 15 stars highlighting the obverse,

and "50th Anniversary 1998" on the reverse, the 39mm, milled-edge piece is available in .999 silver for \$12 or antique bronze for \$4, post-paid. Contact the Louisville Coin Club at P.O. Box 43744, Louisville, KY 43253-0744.

The **North Carolina Numismatic Association (NCNA)** held its 40th annual convention and coin show in Greensboro on September 25-27. The event drew 46 dealers and featured 57 tables. C.Y. Delinger was honored for his long service as the organization's bourse chair. **Raleigh Coin Club (RCC)** member Dave Provost won first place for his exhibit "Silver Dollar Commemoratives of Canada: 1935-1998" and second place for "Commemoratives of the 200th Anniversary of the Albany Congress." Third place went to RCC member David Boitnott for "Berlin Airlift—50th Anniversary." The ANA-certified judges were Halbert Carmichael, John Page and Fred Schwan.

The winner of the John J. Pittman Numismatist of the Year Award was Bill Brewer, founder of North Carolina's new and very active **Iredell-Statesville Coin Club**. The **Triangle Coin Club's** Brad Ciociola was named Junior Numismatist of the Year for his knowledge, enthusiasm and contributions as both a collector and a dealer. The NCNA Literary Award went to Dave Provost for the *NCNA Journal* article, "How Much Is a Pedigree Worth?" (reprinted in the February 1998 issue of *The Numismatist*, p. 140). More information about the NCNA is available from Secretary Bob Schreiner, P.O. Box 2331, Chapel Hill, NC 27515, E-mail rcschreiner@mind.spring.com.

Membership Report

The following applications for membership, representing membership numbers 180889 through 182268 and life members 5046 through 5107 were received between March 25 and September 23, 1998. Unless accompanied by one of the following codes—A (Associate), J (Junior), LM (Life Member) or CLM (Converted to Life Member)—all applications are for Regular Membership. Absence of a state heading indicates that no applications were received from that state.

Upon receipt of their application, admission fee and dues, the individuals listed below are deemed members of the Association, with all rights and privileges other than the right to vote. If written objection to the admission of an applicant is received by the Executive Director within 30 days of this publication, the Executive Director shall notify the applicant of such objection, requesting a reply within 20 days after the applicant's receipt or rejection of the notice. After the expiration of this 20-day period, the Executive Director shall present the written objection, along with the applicant's response, if any, and all other information relating thereto, to the Board of Governors for a determination as to whether or not to revoke the applicant's membership. In the event that such membership is revoked, the admission fee and dues shall be refunded. If membership is not revoked or if the objection is not upheld, the applicant's membership will remain in effect, and the applicant shall have the right to vote.

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Membership News

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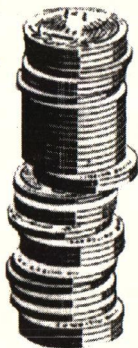
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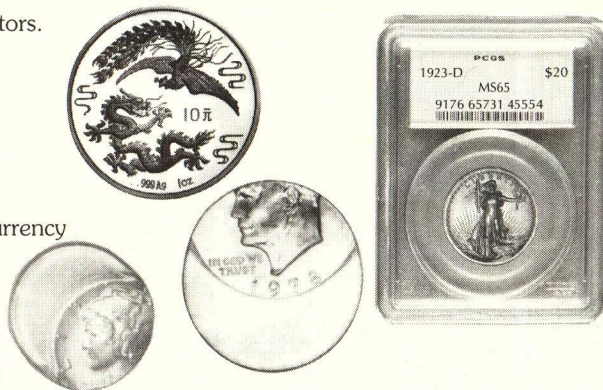
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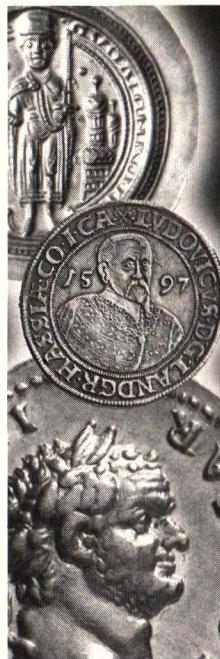
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Howard J. Blyler, Kevin Miller, Brett L. Phillips (J), Rexall K. Wildman

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Robbie Alexander (J), Chris Andrews (J), Steve Anhalt, Nathan T. Armstrong (J), Wm. Aumann, Andy Carlson (J), Thomas

Casper, Adam Clark (J), Ean Clay (J), Andy Cota (J), Vonna Davis (J), Michelle Drollinger (J), Stephen Ellis (J), Bradley Elmer (J), Clare Fildes (J), James Gates (J), Eddie Gray (J), David M. Gundersen (J), Eugene W. Heckel, Paul Herrmann, Susanne Heyn (J), Kristopher Holley, Mark R. Ingold (JA), Michael C. Ingold (JA), Adam Johnson (J), Robert Lafond, Harold N. Lee Jr., Zachary Leichti (J), Warren Leonard, Chris Loftus (J), Eric Long, James Mantes (J), Richard Masters, Andy Mieborek (J), Steve Olroyd, Richard A. Reinold (CLM), Brandon Schultz (J), James W. Stark (J), Paul Timm Jr., Donald K. Vollen, Adam Wargolet (J), Brian Wentz, Norman Wilson, Paul Yakich (J), Steve Zdravkerim (J)

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OBITUARIES

AUTENCE BASON—ANA 54236

Longtime hobbyist Autence Andrews Bason, widely recognized for her knowledge of communion and love tokens, died on September 28 in Greensboro, North Carolina. She was 86 years old.

Bason and her husband of 68 years, J.W. Baxter Bason, were founding members of the Greensboro Coin Club in 1955. She was active in the North Carolina Numismatic Association (NCNA), having served on its board of directors and as president. She was named "Numismatist of the Year," NCNA's

highest honor. In the 1980s, Bason was elected first vice president of the Love Token Society, later serving as acting president.

A certified ANA exhibit judge, Bason also received numerous first-place awards for her displays of love tokens at ANA conventions. She and her husband were named Numismatic Ambassadors in 1982 by *Numismatic News*. In 1995 the Virginia Numismatic Association bestowed upon her its Walt Mason Award for Numismatic Achievement; that same year, she and her husband were presented with the ANA's Glenn Smedley Memorial Award.

Bason is survived by her husband; a son, David; a daughter, Beverly Cuthbertson; three grandchildren;

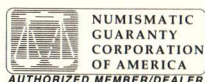


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Membership News

and six great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions can be made to the Westover Church Missionary Fund, 505 Muirs Chapel Rd., Greensboro, NC 27410.

HERBERT BLACK JR.—ANA 51899

Herbert Theodore Black Jr. died on June 28 in State College, Pennsylvania, at the age of 63.

Following graduation from a Pennsylvania high school in 1952, he went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from Pennsylvania State University in 1957 and 1972, respectively. He served in the United States Air Force as an electronic warfare officer, retiring with the rank of major in 1974. Subsequently,

he owned and operated Herbert T. Black Coin, Stamps and Americana Shop in State College.

Black is survived by his wife, Emily; a sister; a son, Brooke; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions can be made to the Easter Seals Society, 1300 S. Allen St., State College, PA 16801; or to the Centre County Historical Society, 1001 E. College Ave., State College, PA 16801.

MICHAEL IACOCCA—ANA 124269

Michael G. Iacocca, former sculptor/engraver of the United States Mint, died on September 30 in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He was 86 years old.

Iacocca designed and executed

portraits of Robert Kennedy, Joe Louis, Hyman Rickover, Danny Thomas, Alexander Calder and Aaron Copeland for Congressional gold medals. He also designed the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, the 75th anniversary medal for the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena in Allentown, and a plaque for the Percy Ruhe Park, also in Allentown. In addition, for the past 35 years he has designed and sculpted the John F. Kennedy award for the All American Collegiate Golf Foundation.

A veteran of World War II and a member of the U.S. Air Force Reserve, he attended the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia and later served as its superintendent. He was the founder and



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Membership News

director of the National Youth Hall of Fame.

Iacocca is survived by Marguerite, his wife of 52 years; a brother; a sister; three daughters; a son; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena Memorial Fund or the Cathedral School Scholarship Fund, 1825 W. Turner St., Allentown, PA 18104-5617.

MARTIN OGHIGIAN—ANA 170829

An authority on Colonial and Early American silver coinage, Martin Manuel Oghigian died on October 4 in Los Angeles. He was 59 years old.

Born in Chicago in 1939, Oghigian moved to Los Angeles with his

family, where he attended George Washington High School and the University of California, from which he received a bachelor of science degree. He continued his graduate studies, earning a master's degree in zoology, and then a juris doctorate degree from the University of Southern California School of Law.

After service in the United States Marine Corps, he became a deputy district attorney for Los Angeles County, working with distinction for 31 years. A longtime, knowledgeable numismatist, he was appreciated for his discerning taste. He specialized in early Bust dollars, 1792 pattern coins and Washingtonia. His personal collection included two 1794 dollars, a 1792 silver-center cent and

a 1792 half dime.

He is survived by four sons, Martin Jr., Marcus, Michael and Matthew; his mother; a sister; and a brother. Memorial contributions can be made to the University of Southern California School of Law, Office of Development and Graduate Relations, 699 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90009-0071.

JOSEPH MONTESANO—ANA 9260

Joseph L. Montesano, founder of Lincoln Coin and Stamp Company in Buffalo, New York, died on September 28. He was 92 years old.

Born and raised in Buffalo, he graduated from Hutchison Technical High School. In the late 1930s, he served as a supply sergeant in the

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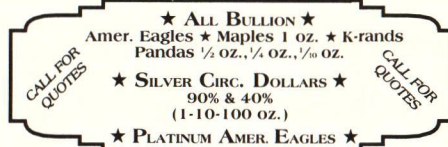
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National Guard, and in 1936 started the Saturn Stamp Company, which became Lincoln Coin and Stamp. He later worked as a special mail clerk with the United States Postal Service, retiring in 1955.

He is survived by two sons, Ronald and Lou; a sister; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

MARK MENDELSON—ANA 75706

Mark L. Mendelson, owner of Fountain Square Stamp & Coin in Cincinnati, Ohio, died on September 25. He was 51 years old.

Mendelson started collecting at age 14. After college, he pursued numismatics full time as an employee of the Sandler Brothers company. In 1981, when the firm was renamed

Fountain Square Coin & Stamp Company, he purchased an interest, assuming full ownership in 1984. This year marked the 25th anniversary of his membership in the ANA.

He is survived by his wife of 16 years, Nancy; a daughter, Danielle; a son, Matthew; and his father, Julius. Memorial contributions should be directed to the Edward Canter Memorial Fund, c/o Isaac M. Wise, 8329 Ridge Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45237.

- R 173671 Gary Bradbury, Shoreline, WA (joined 12-96)
- R 146642 Ronald Bradley, Vancouver, WA (joined 9-89)
- LM 215 Daniel H. Brown, Sun City West, AZ (joined 7-42)
- R 28978 John Campbell, Springfield, OR (joined 1-57)

- R 178528 Robert Cohen, Chula Vista, CA (joined 11-97)
- R 167109 Lonnie Dutton, Pottsboro, TX (joined 4-95)
- LM 828 Jack Friedberg, Scottsdale, AZ (joined 10-51)
- G 6656 Matt J. Gazso, North Olmsted, OH (joined 1-38)
- R 41899 Patricia Hamilton, Decatur, GA (joined 1-61)
- G 4223 Bertram D. Janes, Auburn, CA (joined 1-33)
- K 120380 J. Randle Luten Jr., North Little Rock, AR (joined 3-83)
- G 10377 Charles L. Ruby, Fullerton, CA (joined 1-44)
- K 38924 Robert P. Serles, South Orange, NJ (joined 1-60)
- G 10337 Emil Voigt, Cutchogue, NY (joined 1-44)
- A 117888 Betty Young, Oceanside, CA (joined 6-82)

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Tools of Power

continued from page 1367

displayed the face value, DEUTSCHES REICH ("German Empire") and the year on the obverse. The entire reverse was taken up by the "Reichsadler," or imperial eagle. Polish coinage of 1917-18 followed this pattern exactly. The obverse of each piece displayed the value, surrounded by KROLESTWO POLSKIE ("Polish Kingdom") and the year of mintage. The effect is that of a contemporary German coin translated into Polish. The reverse of the coins represent a translation in another sense: a crowned Polish eagle occupied the entire field, much as the Reichsadler did on German pieces.

In planning the new Polish coinage, German authorities seemed to

be designing a permanent monetary system. The coins themselves, minted from Siemens-Martin iron and coated with zinc dust and quartz sand to retard rust, were similar in quality to their German counterparts. Moreover, more than 50 million coins were minted in 1917 alone, with another 108 million pieces struck in 1918. Clearly this was not a temporary or provisional system.

A good contrast can be drawn between these issues and the German military issues of 1916 struck for circulation in occupied Russia, Poland and the Baltic countries (the so-called "Oberost Coinage"). These pieces carried inscriptions stating they were minted for the area of occupation in the east (GEBIET DES OBERBEFEHLSHABERS OST), while the Polish coins were minted for a

specific national identity, albeit under German tutelage. The Oberost coins, moreover, were denominated in Russian kopecks, emphasizing their provisional nature. The Polish pieces carried a newly created denomination that looked ahead to more permanent standards.

In view of the striking similarities between 1917-18 German and Polish coinage, it is highly likely the Germans planned such issues as the forerunners of a common currency for Central Europe. The Baltic countries also were occupied by Germany in World War I, and, like Poland, were to remain closely aligned in the event of a German victory. In 1918 the Germans set up a bank similar to the Polish State Loan Bank for the Baltic countries. Headquartered in Kaunas, Lithua-



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nia, this bank began to issue mark currency in April 1918. Thus not only Poland, but the whole Baltic region was to be brought into the German currency bloc, again in accord with German war aims.

After World War I ended in 1918, Germany was forced to abandon its newly won domination of Russian Poland and the Baltic countries. In 1919 a truly independent Poland was re-created from the Russian, Austrian and German sectors. The Polish coinage system set up under German occupation, however, remained intact initially. The coins minted in 1917-18 continued to circulate during the first years of the new Polish republic, while the marka remained the unit of account. Like Germany, Poland suffered from rampant inflation in the postwar years. By 1922

rising prices had rendered the coins minted in 1917-18 practically worthless. In 1923 the Polish coinage system was reorganized once again, with a zloty (equal to 100 groszy) as the unit of account.

Money is one of the most valuable tools in the exercise of power. In World War I, Germany was fully aware of this fact. While paying lip service to Polish independence, Germany went forward with plans to secure control of Poland's future. While Germany's defeat in World War I destroyed these elaborate political and economic designs, the coins survive in mute testimony to Germany's dream of *Mitteuropa*. •

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Paul van Wie received his Ph.D. from the City University of New York in 1989. In addition to teaching at The Wheatley School in Old Westbury, New York, he is a member of the political science department at Hofstra University. A former New York State "Teacher of the Year," Dr. van Wie is interested in political iconography, especially the symbolism and historical context of modern European coinage.

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The ANA will hold its annual Young Numismatists Auction next summer. Bids on numismatic items can be made only with special ANA auction money, earned by hobby participation. A portion of the auction will be held during the 108th Anniversary Convention in Chicago, August 11-15. Those who are unable to attend can participate in the mail-bid section.

Activities that earn auction money include school talks or papers on numismat-

ics, exhibits for National Coin Week (April 18-24), attending coin club meetings or shows, using the ANA Library, or recruiting a new ANA member. For complete details, contact the Education Department.

Apply for Summer Seminar Scholarships

Each year several dozen Young Numismatists from around the country attend the ANA's Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs, Colorado, through scholarships generously donated by ANA members, clubs and organiza-

tions. Scholarship funds also are raised at the benefit auction conducted by YNs during the Seminar itself. Most scholarships pay for tuition, airfare, room and board. Request a scholarship application for this year's Summer Seminar, July 10-16, from the Education Department.

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General Information

YN awards will be presented at the ANA's 108th Anniversary Convention in Chicago, August 11-15, 1999. Send questions and other correspondence to the ANA Education Department, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279, telephone 719/632-2646, fax 719/634-4085 or E-mail ana@money.org.

Special YN Honors

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ANA Member Clubs Award for Outstanding Young Numismatist

for service to numismatics or educational groups, published papers (including those printed in local publications), enthusiasm for the hobby and leadership in local numismatics. The recipient of this prestigious award gets a special plaque and an all-expense-paid scholarship to the following year's ANA Summer Seminar. Nominations from ANA members or member clubs must be received by the ANA Education Department no later than May 1, 1999.

YN Literary Awards

- Authors must be junior or student ANA members (age 22 or younger) at the time their article is submitted.
- Articles may be of any length.
- All work must be original.
- No more than one article may be submitted in each category.
- No article may be entered in more than one category.
- Entries must be received by the Education Department no later than May 1, 1999.

First-, second- and third-place awards are given in each of three categories:

Abe Kosoff Memorial Literary Award—best essay or talk on a numismatic subject.

Gould Memorial Literary Award—best article that shows in-depth research (beyond information published in standard references) and demonstrates individual or specialized involvement with the topic.

Ray Byrne Memorial Literary Award—same as the Gould award, except that the article must have been published in *The Numismatist*, *First Strike* or other recognized numismatic publication.

YN Exhibit Awards

- Exhibitors must prepare, mount and place their own displays.
- Exhibitors must be junior or student ANA members (age 22 or younger) at the time the exhibit is mounted.
- All displays will automatically be considered for awards in adult exhibit categories.
- Obtain official ANA exhibit rules and an exhibit application from the Convention Department. Completed exhibit applications for the Chicago convention must be received no later than June 14, 1999.

First-, second- and third-place awards are up for grabs in seven categories:

Gordon Z. Greene Memorial Exhibit Award—United States coins

James L. Betton Exhibit Award—foreign coins

Kurt Krueger Exhibit Award—U.S. & foreign paper money

Melissa Van Grover Exhibit Award—Israeli or Judaic numismatics

ANA Exhibit Award—medals & tokens

Charles H. Wolfe Sr. Exhibit Award—medieval & ancient numismatics

Alan Herbert Exhibit Award—Errors & varieties □

The Perennial Joy of Annual Collecting

by Mark Zimmermann, LM 4778

There are as many ways to collect coins as there are collectors, because every collection is unique in some way. A meaningful collection is far more interesting than a random accumulation or hoard, because its structure binds the coins together and lets them tell a story. A theme will unify your collection and help the pieces in it make sense.

The Annual Collection

Coins are magic. When a coin emerges from hiding and suddenly is seen away from its old haunts, its magic becomes apparent. Coins survive as pieces of history, visible reminders of times and places

past. Gathering coins bearing a single date—what I call “annual collecting”—intensifies this special magic.

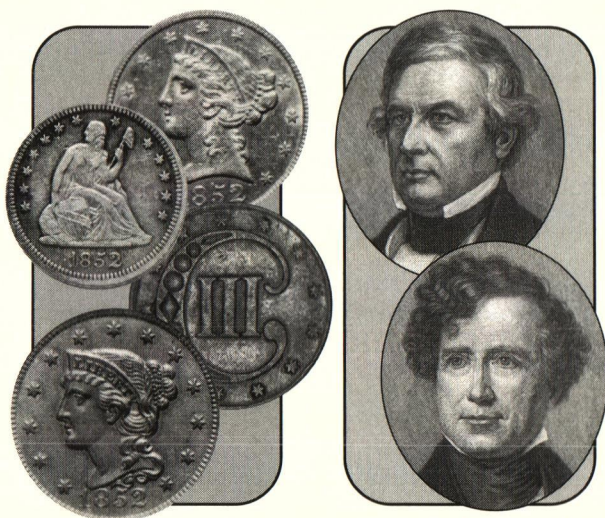
All coins in an annual collection were made within a span of 12 months (barring confusion or chicanery by the producer). If they happen to come from a single mint, they probably were struck within a few yards of one another. Bringing them back into one collection, after such a long separation, makes for quite a family reunion!

Annual collecting is not common, but it is both fascinating and infinitely customizable. Your selection of a target year might be influenced by one or all of these factors:

- history—choose a year with major events that echo your interests
- cost—choose a year for which desirable coins are within your budget
- aesthetics—choose a year for which you find the coins’ designs pleasing.

Another big advantage of an annual set is that you develop a special, personal connection with your coins. An annual collection could, for example, be centered on the year of your birth or some other special occasion—a marriage or graduation, or the birth of an ancestor or famous personality.

As time passes, the owner and his or her coins age together, and the connection between them deepens. The collector learns more and more about the birth year of the coins, their political and economic context, and the society they served.



Not Actual Size

In 1852 half dimes, dimes and quarters disappeared from circulation (3-cent pieces were not worth hoarding), and in the November election, Millard Fillmore (top right) lost to Franklin Pierce (bottom right).

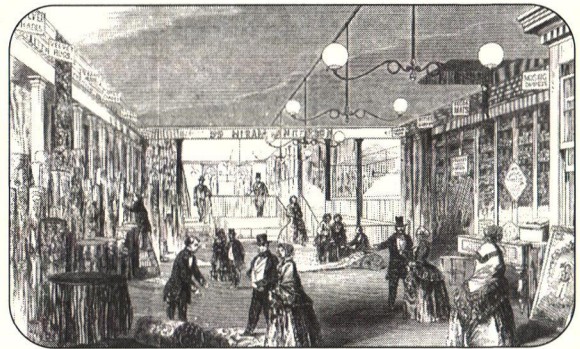
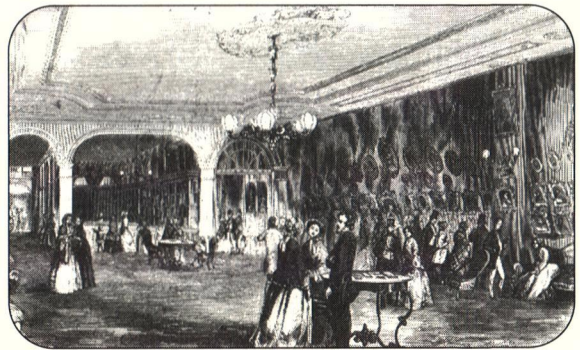
A Personal Example

My own annual collection happens to focus on 1852—a fascinating year from many historical and numismatic vantage points. In the United States, it was the end of Millard Fillmore's Administration; he had been chosen vice president in 1848, but took over the higher office upon Zachary Taylor's death. Fillmore was not noteworthy as a strong President (to put it mildly), and he lost to Franklin Pierce in the November 1852 election.

Roget's Thesaurus was first published in 1852. It also was the year Harriet Beecher Stowe's powerful, antislavery novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, appeared and added to pressures that drove the United States into Civil War.

It was a good year for safety: Elisha Gray Otis developed the first safety elevator, and Johan Lundstrom invented safety matches in Sweden. In an ironic juxtaposition, 1852 saw the founding of Wells Fargo (of money, transportation and banking fame), Smith & Wesson (guns) and New York City's Mount Sinai Hospital (healing). "Uncle Sam," the cartoon personification of the United States, made his inaugural appearance in *The New York Lantern* newspaper.

The Gold Rush that began in 1849 climaxed in 1852 as production peaked in California. Silver's value rose, and suddenly it was profitable to melt down small coins for their bullion content. Half dimes, dimes, quarters and half dollars began to vanish from circulation. (The 1852 shortage applied only to pieces made of 90-percent silver; since 3-cent pieces contained only 75-percent precious metal, they were not worth melting.) The crisis grew until finally, in early 1853, the United States Mint was



In the 1850s, fashionable New Yorkers visited daguerreotype establishments to have their pictures taken (top) and shopped for carpets and other goods manufactured using the most advanced techniques (bottom).

forced to reduce the silver content of minor coins to about 7 percent.

Fortunately for today's numismatists, even with the great silver melt-down, many U.S. coins of 1852 still are quite affordable, particularly in circulated condition. Exceptions tend to be certain branch issues (such as gold coins made in small numbers at Charlotte and Dahlonega) and the silver dollar (only 1,100 were minted, of which perhaps 50 survive today). Half cents were not actually made in 1852; pieces bearing that date were struck in the Mint many years later, as were proof 1852 silver dollars.

In 1852 Napoleon III declared himself Emperor of France; in England the Duke of Wellington and Lady Ada Lovelace passed away. Commodore Perry forced his way into Japan and began the process of opening that nation to world trade. The London Convention was signed, ending the war between Prussia and Denmark over Schleswig-Holstein. A propeller was used on a hot-air balloon, creating the earliest powered airship. The year 1852 also happens to be a century before the year I was born.

More Ideas

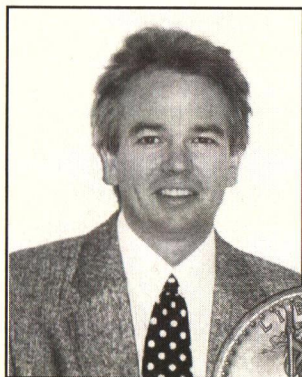
A set of coins involving a single year can grow in many directions. It can begin with pieces from one country and then spread around the world. You can start

with examples of each major type of coin and then add products of branch mints. An annual set can include error coins or noteworthy die varieties, as well as paper money, tokens, jetons, medals or non-numismatic items. Your annual collection can be supplemented with notes and historical information to add context and background to the coins on display.

Alternatively, an annual collection can be merely a constrained form of type set, with the special challenge of finding examples all from the same year. Completing a particular annual collection can be a very precise and finite goal, as easy or as hard to achieve as you choose. Whichever path you take, the fun and challenge of building an annual collection are limitless! □

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Mark Zimmermann earned his Ph.D. in physics from California Institute of Technology and works for the federal government in the Washington, D.C., area. The father of three teenage numismatists, he is editor of the *Montgomery County (MD) Coin Club newsletter*.

Penny Wise solution

FROM PAGE 1432

1. America
2. Liberty
3. Arrow
4. Leaf
5. Date
6. United state
7. Wreath
8. Shield
9. Eye (I)
10. Acorn
11. Feather
12. One sent (cent)
13. Ayes and Noes (eyes and nose)
14. Lock (of hair)
15. Scent (cent)

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Quiz Quarters



Assignment: Find the Following on the Indian Head Cent

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. The title of a song | 9. Something denoting self |
| 2. A privilege | 10. A nut |
| 3. A weapon of war | 11. Trimming for a hat |
| 4. Part of a plant | 12. A messenger |
| 5. A foreign fruit | 13. A method of voting |
| 6. A term of marriage | 14. Part of a door |
| 7. An ancient honor | 15. A perfume |
| 8. An act of protection | |

Penny Wise

by Marilyn Reback, ANA 129422

This quiz is adapted from the game "Penny Wise," which was published 70 years ago in a book entitled *Games for the Playground, Home, School and Gymnasium*. It was described as a "quiet game," suitable for a house party and 5 to 30 players. Although at the time the book was published the Indian Head cent had not been produced for more than 20 years, the instructions called for providing each player with "a bright new penny (of design prior to 1909)."

Are you "penny wise"? Use the clues above to identify the features on the Indian Head cent.

SOLUTION ON PAGE 1431

How I Started on the Trail of National Bank Notes

by Frank Clark, ANA 153116

My pursuit of National Bank notes goes back to the spring of 1975, when I was a sophomore at North Texas State University in Denton. I basically was a coin collector who also had a few pieces of paper money in my meager collection. I would see National Bank notes at coin shows, but I didn't know anything about them except that they had the name of the bank on them.

One day I got the idea of looking for a National Bank note on the Denton County National Bank. Under the eaves of the solid, white building on the southeast corner of the courthouse square in Denton was the name "Denton Co. National Bank." However, by then the bank had moved out, and a title company occupied the building.

At the very next coin show I attended in Dallas, I started to pay more attention to National Bank notes in dealers' cases. I remember looking through what seemed to me a large stack of notes, and there was a small-size \$10 on the Denton County National Bank! I couldn't believe it! The very first time I looked for a note on a particular bank, I found one!

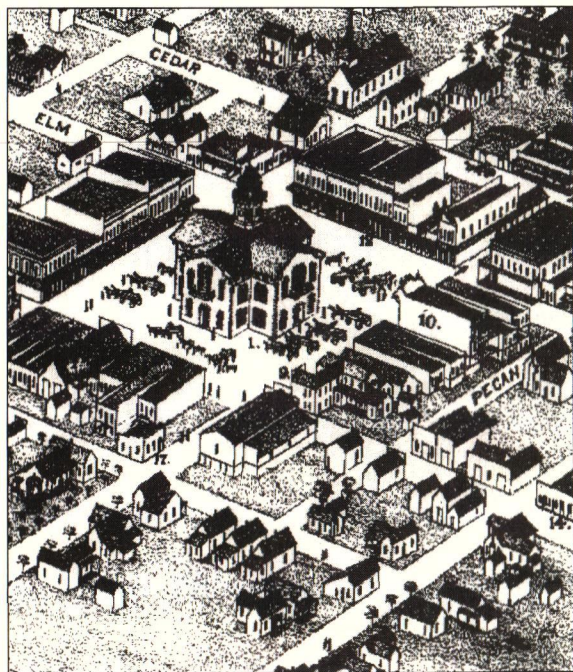
The note was dirty and in low grade, with the serial number F000052A. Regretably, I had to pass on it because it was beyond my means (although looking back, it was fairly priced). I mistakenly

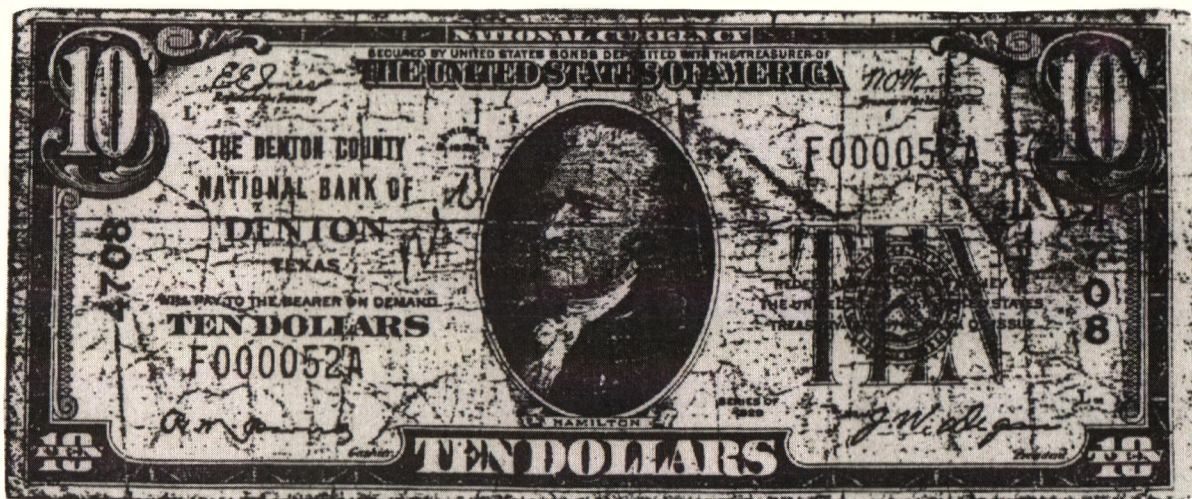
thought that since I had found the note so easily, this bank must be common and I would find a better specimen soon. Boy, was I wrong!

I kept searching. About six years later, a friend sent me an extensive Lyn Knight price list of Nationals. For every note on the price list there was a description and a serial number. There was number F000052A again! I had not seen another note on this bank since. The price list was more than two years old at the time, so I did not act on it, and my search continued.

In the meantime, I had gone from collecting coins to small-size United

Situated on the courthouse square in Denton, Texas (shown here as it appeared in 1883), the Denton County Bank obtained its national charter in 1892.





Not Actual Size

I first saw this small-size \$10 note from the Denton County (Texas) National Bank in 1975, but could not afford to purchase it at the time. The note eluded me for more than nine years before I finally was able to buy it at a numismatic convention in Dallas.

States currency, and now I was converting to National Bank notes. In 1982 I decided to concentrate on collecting Nationals from the Dallas area. The first Hickman-Oakes and Kelly books were published, and they were a big help.

I still did not have a note on the bank that started this odyssey, but I had obtained quite a few National Bank notes, including a Third Charter "without dates" \$10 on the First National Bank of Denton. So at least I was getting close.

In 1984 I began corresponding with a Salt Lake City collector of North Texas Nationals. He had a Type I \$20 on the Denton County National Bank and decided to sell it to me. I was very happy and waited for the note to arrive in the mail. It was delivered on a Friday in November, and the very next day a friend and I went to the Numismatics International Convention in Dallas. I brought my new Denton note along with me.

I was looking for Nationals at the

show, and in a dealer's case at an unattended table there was F000052A again! I could not believe it! I knew the dealer—he was a professor at North Texas State University. I waited for him to return, and he sold me the note. At last I had caught up with it! After more than nine years of looking and a bit of luck, in two days I had two notes on the bank that started it all.

Since then I have obtained many Nationals from the Dallas area. I also purchased a \$100 Third Charter "Date Back" on the Exchange National Bank of Denton to complete the collection. In addition, I obtained two different obsolete notes from the Civil War era to extend my Denton collection even further back in time.

Fast forward to the 1990s. The Denton County National Bank building was put up for sale, and it remained so for a long time. In January 1997 I read an article in the *Dallas Morning News* about

the revitalization of Denton's courthouse square. The article mentioned and pictured David Martino, who had purchased the bank building.

I called Martino and arranged to meet him in February to show him some of my Denton notes. The building was being gutted to restore it to its former elegance. He had a few early photographs, and I had some helpful illustrations. We discussed the idea that when the building was completely restored and turned into offices and apartments, he would hold an open house, and I would prepare a display.

An open house was held on August 1, 1997, for what is now known as The Bank Building. I set up my display of Denton National Bank notes and obso-

letes, along with checks, post cards, savings books and letterheads, as well as a copy of the bank's 1892 national charter that I had obtained from the National Archives.

Many visitors at the open house were interested in the old notes and did not know such things once were used as currency. I answered many questions and had a great time. Although it took more than 20 years, my numismatic pursuit had come full circle! □

Frank Clark is vice president and membership director of the Society of Paper Money Collectors, a board member of the Paper Money Collectors of Michigan, governor of the Texas Numismatic Association, and president of the Dallas Coin Club. He has exhibited at local, state and national shows.

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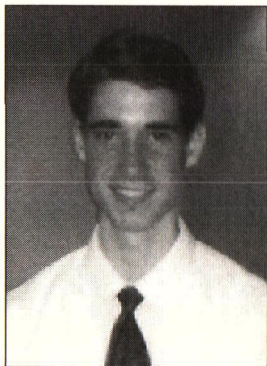
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Collector Spotlight

A 17-year-old ANA member from Colgate, Wisconsin, Justin Perrault has contributed to both the collecting and non-collecting community. As an active member of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society (MNS), he has served for three years as a chairman of its Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge Clinic Committee. (Along with his brother Evan and parents, Keith and Cynthia, Justin joined the MNS—and became more involved in numismatics—after attending one of the club's Scout clinics.)

Justin's organizational skills have come in handy, as his tasks on the committee included planning and leading several of the annual badge programs. He recruited MNS members to assist him, and solicited donations for door prizes. On the day of the clinic, he welcomed Scouts and explained the groundwork for the day-long program. He also helped present a similar workshop at a

recent Central States Numismatic Society (CSNS) show held in Milwaukee, and followed up by writing and submitting reports and photographs to various publications. When not involved with the Scout program, Justin serves as assistant editor of



Justin Perrault of Colgate, Wisconsin.

Justin Perrault: Numismatics Is a Great Hobby

*by Marilyn Reback
ANA 129422*

the MNS newsletter.

A member of Numismatists of Wisconsin and the Central States Numismatic Society, Justin has mounted award-winning exhibits at local and regional coin shows, taking junior best-of-show hon-

ors at several CSNS gatherings for displays of coins from Japan and Antigua. Says Justin, "Being a numismatist can be great if you're really thrilled about coin collecting."

A coin collector for seven years, Justin joined the ANA in 1995 and attended the 1998 ANA Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs, Colorado, on an ANA scholarship that was funded by proceeds from the 1997 YN Benefit Auction. (He took the class "Flying Eagle, Indian Head and Lincoln Cents.") He has written articles on the 1913 Liberty Head nickel and the 1865 3-cent coin.

An outstanding student at Germantown High School, he has participated in marching band, pep band and the golf team. He is involved with the Building Leadership Team, a group comprised of teachers, students, administrators and parents. He also traveled to Australia and New Zealand as a student ambassador with the "People to People" program. Outside school, Justin volunteers his time through his church youth group, and with the local food pantry.

All collectors could learn a thing or two from Justin Perrault, who seems to have found a happy balance of hobby, school and family. □

1999 BLUE BOOK

By R.S. Yeoman

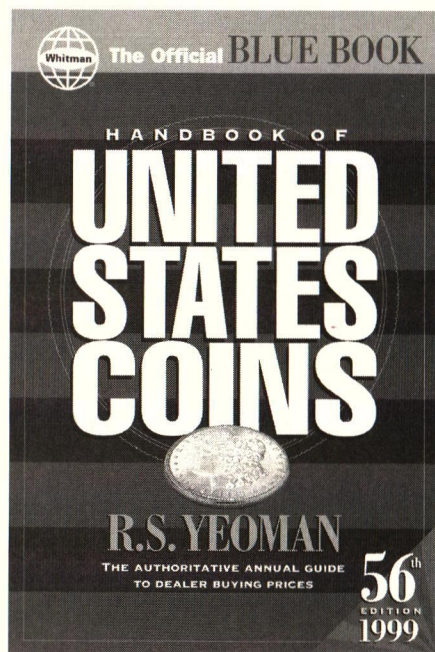
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Grading Barber Quarter Dollars

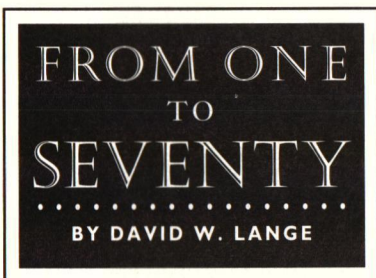
THE BARBER QUARTER series of 1892-1916 was largely overlooked once these coins passed from circulation in the 1940s. Until recently, they were sought mostly by type alone. The formation of a club devoted to Barber dimes, quarters and halves about 10 years ago helped revive interest in collecting these pieces by date and mint. Since that time, a number of interesting varieties have appeared on the scene.

Grading circulated Barber quarters is a fairly straightforward task. The design is quite symmetrical, and both sides feature prominent borders and rims. As a result, these pieces tend to wear evenly. Some exceptions are noted in *Official A.N.A. Grading Standards for United States Coins*, which warns that "[m]ost New Orleans and Denver issues are softly struck, particularly on the eagle's left claw." This affects grading in the higher circulated grades of About Uncirculated and Extremely Fine, since this softness may be mistaken for wear.

Another important point not mentioned in *Official A.N.A. Grading Standards* is that this coin type underwent a number of revisions in its master hub. These changes resulted in subtle differences in the relief and proportion of some design elements. The only hub updates pertinent to this grading study are the obverse and reverse changes that occurred in the 1900s.

The headband, inscribed with the word LIBERTY, is among the affected features. It is not quite as sharply incised on coins generated from the new hubs, and all dates through the end of the series wear a

bit more quickly on this particular feature. Since the number of letters visible in LIBERTY has traditionally



been one of the criteria for grading circulated Barber quarters, collectors must allow for its reduced sharpness on later dates.

Circulated Barber quarters typically have been cleaned to some extent, with varying degrees of success. Branch-mint coins that have never been cleaned in any manner are scarce in dates before 1906. Although grading services like Numismatic Guaranty Corporation will not grade harshly cleaned coins, most experts allow leeway for coins of this type that seem lightly cleaned, but still retain a natural appearance.

Mint-state Barber quarters vary greatly in quality. As noted previously, pieces from the Denver and New Orleans Mints often are in-

completely struck. Conversely, those struck at the Philadelphia and San Francisco Mints tend to be sharper, particularly specimens made from the hubs used during the 1890s.

Grading mint-state coins of this type depends heavily on eye appeal, a concept that is difficult to express in writing. Professional graders evaluate the number of marks and other visual distractions, particularly those occurring in prime focal areas (Liberty's cheek and neck, as well as the fields on either side of the bust).

The conditions that are likely to cause a mint-state Barber quarter to be downgraded are contact marks and hairline scratches. Most surviving pieces were bagged and shipped with no particular care, and thus suffered contact marks from other coins. When this type finally acquired collector value, it typically was stored in paper envelopes or cardboard albums. While many writers have blamed the sliding plastic windows in albums for creating hairline scratches on coin surfaces, I suspect that most of these flaws resulted from clumsy cleaning or shifting within envelopes.

Hairlines are most distressing when found on proof coins. The brilliant fields of proof Barber quarters can be damaged by the slightest friction, and, thus, the vast majority of surviving specimens are flawed to some extent. Another frequent problem for proofs is that the matte texture of their frosted devices tends to be disrupted by nicks or abrasions, leaving unsightly bright patches. Later proofs (1902-15) are more fully brilliant, and hairlines become a discernible problem for both fields and devices.



Grading Barber quarters is a fairly straightforward task.

ANA ARCHIVES

Innovative Ideas for Storing Large Cents

IN MY AUGUST 1998 column entitled, "Chemical Re-Toning Can Be Hazardous," I asked if other collectors knew of good methods for storing and displaying large cents—a difficult series because of size irregularities. I received two fine responses that I'd like share. They appear to be safe and easy to implement (although I make no guarantee as to the safety of their methods, materials or selected brands).

■ From C.M., via Internet:

I am very happy with the holders and albums offered by Eagle of St. Charles, Illinois. I like these snap-together holders made of inert polystyrene and mylar plastic and use them for all my coins (including large cents). The pieces slip into holder pages held in a notebook-type binder, allowing you to view both sides of each coin easily. The coins are always protected.

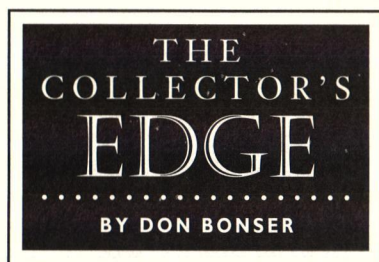
■ From K.L., California:

I, too, have sought ways to display the big coppers as well as small cents in appropriate holders and albums—and want to share some ideas that work for me.

For *circulated* large cents only, I use Eagle-brand, polystyrene, 2 x 2-inch holders that have mylar windows for easy viewing of the coin's obverse and reverse. These units fit together snugly, holding the coins securely in rigid, PVC-free, vinyl album pages. The holders are quickly slipped out of the pages, and the coins are easily removed from the holders for close, hands-on examination. The holders are reusable; to each I affix a small, pressure-sensi-

tive label, available at most office supply stores.

Once the coins are arranged, the



vinyl pages are housed in a three-ring, archival-quality album. I strongly recommend the Heritage brand available through University Products (first-rate products designed especially for preservation and conservation). Heritage albums are made with 100-point, acid-free cardboard and covered in maroon book cloth. The interior is lined with an acid-free, lignin-free material called Perma/Dur®. Beautiful slipcases are available in both light linen and matching maroon. These albums are offered with either O- or D-rings, and may be personalized with gold imprinting.

Using this storage system, I keep the vinyl holders separated with polypropylene pages designed to hold photographic prints. I also use this product to hold notes and other documentation about the adjacent coins. These soft pages prevent the rigid vinyl pages from sliding against one another and scratching the viewing surface.

For small cents, I use a virtually airtight capsule like a Kointain™. The capsule and coin are enclosed in a standard, mylar-coated, cardboard,

2 x 2-inch holder (preferably the Marshall brand), and then the holder is *taped* together along three sides, labeled and placed in an album page. For these thin holders, I use rigid, vinyl album pages designed for long-term storage of photographic slides. These archival-quality pages are thin and vacuum-formed, and offered by 20th Century Plastics, Highsmith and others.

Each row of storage compartments alternates with respect to loading direction, top or bottom. Because the fit is snug, the holders can be a bit difficult to remove. This is not entirely undesirable, however, as any system should store coins and holders securely.

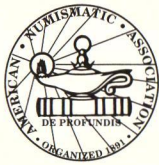
There are some limitations to this display system, among them no provisions for uncirculated large cents. Nevertheless, my system allows attractive arrangements while providing a safe storage environment, unlimited versatility, and a functional way to view the collection.

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7. The insurance referred to herein covers the period from ANA's receipt of a coin to its delivery thereof to a representative of the United States Postal Service for return to Applicant by Registered Insured Mail. ANA will not be liable for the subsequent loss or theft of or damage to such coin or the failure of the U.S. Postal Service to make delivery thereof, but will assist Applicant in completing a Postal Service claim form therefore.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

FEE CALCULATIONS

No. of
Items Rate

FEES: _____ x \$23.00 = \$ _____

FEES: _____ x \$40.00 = \$ _____

PLUS+ FEES: _____ x \$5.00 = \$ _____

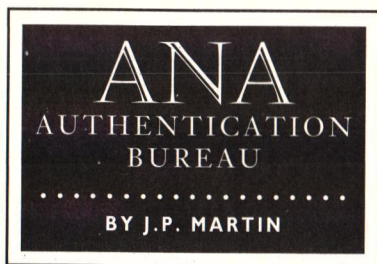
POSTAGE (1 item) \$8.50: \$ _____

EACH ADDITIONAL ITEM \$1.00 ea.: \$ _____

ADDITIONAL INSURANCE: \$ _____

(See worksheet in November 1998
issue, p. 1316.)

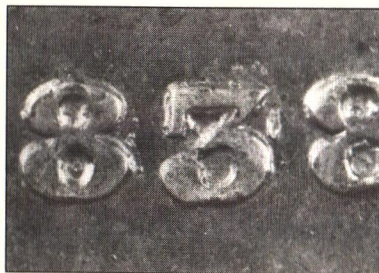
TOTAL THIS ORDER: \$ _____



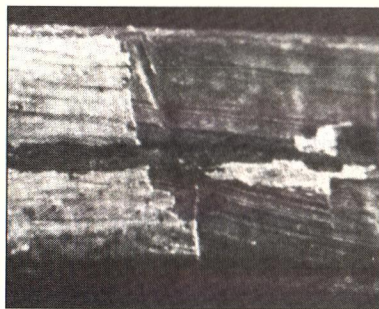
Electrotypes and Cast Counterfeits

This month's column takes a look at electrotypes and techniques of producing cast counterfeits. While electrotypes are not created using the casting method, they resemble cast counterfeits more closely than die-struck counterfeits or altered specimens.

Improved materials, equipment and methodology can make modern fakes very deceptive. Some of the best examples of cast counterfeits that have appeared in recent years imitate early United States silver coins. (A very convincing cast counterfeit 1796 half dollar was reported in the October 1986 issue of *The Numismatist*.) The average numismatist's best defense against these spurious pieces is a scale; specific gravity determinations for genuine coins; and a knowledge of the characteristics of cast coins.



Electrotypes generally exhibit a slight loss of detail. The date on this electrotype of an 1838 Gobrecht dollar is not as sharp as that on a genuine coin.



Electrotypes usually have a seam along the edge where the obverse and reverse are soldered together. Here plating has been scraped away (right) to reveal the copper shell and the compound used to conceal the seam.

Electrotypes

This kind of counterfeit commonly is produced for museums, as it is not highly deceptive and provides an inexpensive copy of a rare or unique piece for display purposes. The process begins by pressing one side of a genuine coin into a soft material, such as wax. The resulting mold of the image is coated with a fine, metal powder, connected to the negative end of a source of electric current, and suspended in an electroplating solution, producing a thin layer of metal on the mold. The wax is then melted away, leaving a metal shell with a ragged perimeter. The same procedure is used for the other side of the coin.

The two "pie pan" images of the obverse and reverse are filled with a metal compound, often an alloy of lead, zinc and tin. (This compound melts at a lower temperature than the electroplate shell and does not harm it.) The filled shells then are trimmed of excess material and soldered together; the edges are smoothed to hide evidence of the seam. Because of the edge work involved, usually smooth-edged coins (such as colonials, and half-, 1- and

20-cent pieces) are copied using the electrotype method.

Diagnostics of electrotypes include an edge seam, unusual texture and color, lack of edge detail and/or evidence of edge filing. When tapped, genuine, "strike hardened" coins resonate consistent tonal qualities, whereas cast coins emit a dull sound.

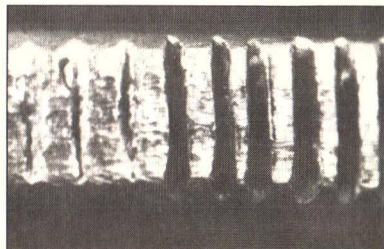
Vacuum Castings

Counterfeits produced by the vacuum casting method are of the highest quality. The process begins with the manufacture of a highly detailed mold, often of ceramic material. The mold includes two openings, one to accommodate a vacuum tube and the other to accept a pressurized injection of molten metal. The suction from the vacuum and the rapid influx of metal eliminate casting bubbles and force the molten material into the details of the mold. If expertly done, this process produces a very deceptive counterfeit.

Centrifugal Castings

This process is much like vacuum casting in that metal is forced quickly into a mold under pressure. However, in this case, the pressure is exerted by centrifugal force.

A reservoir is positioned in the center of a basin on top of a spindle. A tube connects the reservoir to the



To conceal evidence of casting ports, counterfeiters often embellish the reeding on the edges of cast reproductions. Note the tooled reeds at the right.



The casting process can create bubbles (left) and pits on the counterfeit piece.

mold. Metal is heated to a molten state in the reservoir, which then is rotated rapidly, forcing the liquefied metal through the tube and into the mold.

Counterfeits produced in this fashion generally replicate the detail of the mold, but their surfaces usually show more bubbles than those

manufactured by the vacuum process. As a rule, cast counterfeits have a lower specific gravity, lighter weight and slightly smaller diameter than the genuine articles. Fine detail may be lost, and casting ports may be evident on the edge. As with electrotypes, cast counterfeits may not have the "ring" of authentic coins.

Lost Wax Process

The "lost wax" technique is an ancient method of casting that produces a reasonable facsimile of the original item. A wax copy of the item is enclosed in plaster, with two or more tubes protruding to create casting ports. When the plaster mold dries, the tubes are removed, and the entire assembly is heated until the wax melts and can be poured out. This leaves an evacuated plaster mold that can be filled with molten metal, cooled and broken apart to extract the cast image.

Suspect coins should be submitted to the ANA Authentication Bureau for evaluation. For further information, contact ANA Collector Services, telephone 719/632-2646 (ext. 116), fax 719/634-4085 or E-mail anamus@money.org.



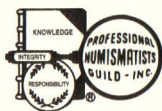
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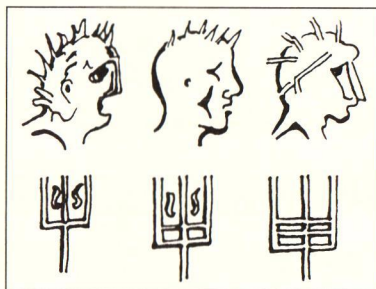
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In an effort to better serve collectors of **error and variety coins**, the Combined Organizations of Numismatic Error Collectors of America (CONECA) conducts regular mail-bid sales. Participants will find a huge variety of material, from doubled dies and repunched mintmarks to incomplete planchets and off-center strikes, starting at as little as \$1.50 each. Consignments of such material always are sought. The next sale is slated for February 2, 1999. For more information, contact Mike Ellis, CONECA Auctioneer, Rt. 2, Box HI 504, Donalsonville, GA 31745; telephone 912/861-2089; or E-mail coneca@surfsouth.com. An "Auction Consignor Sheet" can be found at CONECA's Web site at <http://hermes.csd.net/~coneca>.

Alex G. Malloy's September 30 sale featured an impressive selection of **Danubian Celtic pieces**, as well as other Celtic specimens from Asia Minor, Gaul and Britain. Obverses typically are struck from worn dies and depict a crude image of the god of the River Strymon; a simple trident appears on the reverse. The coins ranged in condition from Good to Very Fine, with pre-auction estimates of \$40 to \$100. Also offered were more than 1,500 lots of **ancient and medieval coins** and antiquities, including coinage of Imperial Greece, Republican and Imperial Rome, and Byzantium. For information about upcoming sales,



Danubian Celts typically bear a crude portrait of the god of the River Strymon on the obverse and a simple trident on the reverse. Alex G. Malloy's September mail-bid sale featured 31 such specimens.

contact Alex G. Malloy, Inc., P.O. Box 38, South Salem, NY 10590.

Dana Linett, president of Early American History Auctions of La Jolla, California, was very pleased with the results of his August 22 sale, which featured 1,216 lots of **coins, paper money, autographs and Americana**. "Overall participation [in the mail-bid auction] was better than expected, and prices reflect a renewed enthusiasm, especially for classic, 'blue chip' items and anything of quality," says Linett.

An uncut, double sheet of 1780 Rhode Island notes brought \$1,760, while an extremely fine, encased 1-cent postage stamp issued by F. Buhl & Company brought \$2,588. An About Uncirculated Pine Tree threepence sold for \$7,475; a mint-state 1723 Rosa Americana "crowned rose" halfpenny sold for \$1,984; a very fine Chalmers shilling realized \$2,588; and a Very Fine Lord Baltimore shilling garnered the top bid of \$5,750. A Very Fine 1795 half dollar sold for \$2,185, and an About Uncirculated 1807 half dollar brought \$1,328. An 1861 Clark, Gruber & Company \$2½ gold piece was purchased for \$2,703.

For information about upcoming

sales or consigning material to an Early American History auction, contact Dana Linett, P.O. Box 3341, La Jolla, CA 92038, telephone 619/459-4159 or fax 619/459-4373. Illustrated catalogs are available for an annual subscription rate of \$36; for on-line catalogs and lists of prices realized, visit the firm's Web site at www.EarlyAmerican.com.

Classical Numismatic Group's (CNG) September 16 sale of **ancient coins** witnessed active participation, with total prices realized of \$849,599 (including a 10-percent buyer's fee), against pre-sale estimates of \$727,909. A tetradrachm of Rhegion realized \$4,950; a gold double dekadrachm of Syracuse brought \$5,500; a tetradrachm of Bactrian king Antimachos was hammered down at \$2,640; and a Roman Civil War denarius sold for \$3,960.

On December 1-2, in conjunction with the New York International Numismatic Convention, CNG was scheduled to hold its Triton II auction along with Numismatica Ars Classica AG of Zurich and Freeman & Sear of Los Angeles. To learn more about CNG sales, contact Kerry Wetterstrom, P.O. Box 479, Lancaster, PA 17608-0479, telephone 717/390-9194, fax 717/390-9978. •



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This Greek tetradrachm of Naxos (460 B.C.) was expected to bring \$125,000 in the Triton II auction, sponsored in part by Classical Numismatic Group in early December.

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CURATOR'S CORNER
.....
BY ROBERT W. HOGE

Bolivian Currency of Propaganda

While serving as a Museum intern last summer, Benjamin R. Bell of Washington, Illinois, studied Bolivian proclamation medals in the collection. His observations resulted in the following commentary about their metrology, manufacture and purpose.

Proclamation medals are a colorful and multifaceted testimony to Bolivia's torrid history. Issued by a succession of 19th-century dictators, their inscriptions provide an interesting and often explicit record of Bolivian politics.

The dialogue surrounding the series is similarly troubled. Those who collect these pieces ask why they are largely ignored by the authoritative coin catalogs and generally held in low esteem. Collectors argue that proclamation medals held a standardized monetary value and circulated along with mainstream coinage. Thus, although they are called "medals," these pieces are

more accurately termed "coins."

In his *Numismatic Quarterly* of December 1980, Paul Bosco offered several postulates supporting a currency usage: "The size of the coins and the edges are the same as those of regular issues, and the pieces clearly show signs of heavy circulation. Likewise, the coins were holed and worn in the manner in which regular issues were worn. . . . Dr. Richard Doty . . . demonstrated that the metrology of the proclamations is exactly the same as contemporary denominations." Furthermore, proclamation coins are included in conversion tables used by 19th-century money-changers.

It is my contention that proclamations meet all the physical standards for legal-tender coinage because most were overstruck on previous coinage of the realm. In examining approximately 130 specimens at the ANA Museum this summer, a pattern began to emerge. Nearly every specimen had evidence of an under-type, alignment irregularity or overlapped edge milling.

Several later pieces exhibit the early, oblique reeding of the bolivar soles. The retention of this archaic

edge treatment supports the usage of a plain collar in the striking process. Likewise, later restrikes are found with plain edges, indicating that the collars were not reeded at this time. Some issues bear both an incuse inscription and a reeded edge. This combination is highly unorthodox, likely resulting from the impression of a lettered collar on a previously reeded edge.

Proclamation coins attest to the political sentiment of the day; they are both a propaganda vehicle and a medium of exchange. Proclamations are legitimate, well documented and necessarily a part of the cannon of early republican coinage. •

—Benjamin R. Bell

Since the American Numismatic Association is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, all donations—both of cash and of material with established "fair market value"—qualify as contributions for income tax purposes. Additional information can be obtained from the Museum of the American Numismatic Association, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279, telephone 719/632-2646; fax 719/634-4085; or Email anamus@money.org.

Of the specimens I examined in the ANA Museum, the most pronounced example of overstriking is found on an 1849 sol, cataloged by Davis Burnett Jr. in his reference *Bolivian Proclamation Coinage* as #29B (far right). The arms of Castile and Leon from the host coin —a Spanish Colonial real of Charles III or IV—create a ghostly visage as the undertype. The coin's original edge reeding is intact, as is its toning. Another piece of interest is an 1852 2-soles piece (Burnett 46) from the rule of Manuel Isidoro Belzu (1848-55). Depicted is a temple Belzu erected on the site where he received his near-mortal battle wound, with the inscription **AL SER SUPREMO QUE SALVO A BOLIVIA** ("The supreme being who saved Bolivia"). Both pieces were donated by Paul Bosco.



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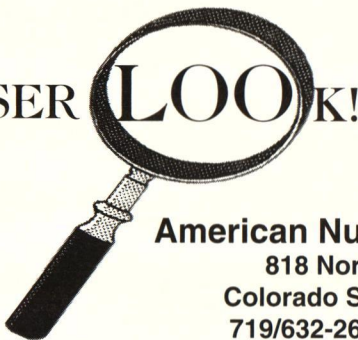
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